

FRIDAY 13 OCTOBER 1995

STARTING THIS SUNDAY

Chief Justice launches bitter attack on Howard's 'get tough' crime plan

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES and HEATHER MILLS.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, was last night locked in an unprecedented public confrontation with Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, after announcing draconian measures in a new Crime Bill with tougher sentences for burglary and violent crime.

He delighted the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool by proposing life sentences for a wide range of repeated violent and sexual crimes on a sec-

Howard's plans

- All those convicted twice of a serious violent or sexual offence that already carries a maximum life sentence would automatically be given life.
- Burglars convicted three times would be subject to a minimum sentence yet to be fixed.
- Prisoners serving sentences of 12 months or less would serve them in full. Instead of automatic early release of up to half a sentence, model prisoners would be freed after serving around \$5 per cent of their sentence; others would serve their full sentences.

ond offence, and minimum sentences for third-time burglars and dealers in hard drugs, plus a drastic cut in sentence reswiftly described by Lord Tay-lor as "inconsistent with doing justice according to the cir-

cumstances of each case". The angry public denunciation by Lord Taylor of the planned British version of the US "three strikes and out" polthe lowest point in relations between the Government and the judiciary over penal policy since the Conservative government sometimes very long sentences, the Conservative government sometimes very long sentences, ment is small. Judges ... must be the first place."



a drastic cut in sentence remission. But the package was Lord Taylor: Judges must be free to fit the Michael Howard: 'Put honesty back at the punishment to the crime if justice is to be done' heart of sentencing and help build safer Britain'

> measures will mean a significant shift of control over sentencing from judges to Parliament.

The Lord Chief Justice said icy marked what threatens to be in a statement that the way to fight crime was to provide the

believe that the threat of longer and longer periods of imprisconnent across the board will de-

ter habitual criminals. Lord Taylor went on: "What

came to power since 1979. The are necessary in some cases to free to fit the particular punprotect the public. But I do not ishment to the particular crime if justice is to be done. Instead of limited judicial discretion by introducing unnecessary constraints on sentencing, the police should be provided with the

- is also tailor-made to face said on Channel 4 News last

However, his response was dismissed out of hand by Mr Labour with the unwelcome Howard who said that it was Parliament's job to decide the

law not the judges.

The measure - which will be preceded by a White Paper and is designed to have its sec-ond reading in the Commons before the next general election Straw, shadow home secretary,

dilemma of whether to back its proposals or risk the electoral ground it has recovered on the

issue crime by opposing it.
There was no immediate indication from Labour last night

night that Labour would take a decision when it had examined the details of Mr Howard's proposals. But ministers are confident that the package unveiled by Mr Howard yesterday dication from Labour last night will be electorally popular. of the stance it will take. Jack However, Lord Taylor is a powerful opponent - he was party to the mauling Mr Howard's last Criminal Justice Act received in the Lords and his support became vital to the success of some of its more controversial clauses, like croding the unfet-

tered right to silence. Further, Lord Taylor has the support of the judiciary and many in the criminal justice system who say the plans, will lead to a huge population explosion in the already overcrowded jails. Without remission as an incentive for good behaviour,

there were fears of rioting. The Home Secretary told the conference that the Bill

Inside

The law and order row; Taylor statement in full page 2

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Leading article page 20 Andrew Marr page 21

would "send shock waves through the criminal community ... put honesty back at the heart of sentencing and it will help build a safer Britain".

This latest populist law and order drive which the government now intends to make a centrepiece of its electoral platform will be significantly reinforced today when the Prime Minister confirms the disclosure in the Independent that MI5 will now assist the fight against organised crime.

Michael Forsyth, Secretary of State for Scotland, said in a Scottish law and order announcement there would be "an enhanced role" for the security services because "better information is crucial if we are to target top-level criminals".

Mr Major will say today that "we will be stepping up the war against crime and will hit it harder and harder and harder".

larke clears the path to tax cuts

and PAUL WALLACE

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday unmistakably paved the way for tax cuts in next month's Budget with a promise that he was "looking forward to it a lot more" than for the last two

Mr Clarke, addressing the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool, pledged that the England" and would be based on "traditional Tory values". He said he recognised that "after you have loyally supported all the hard work that has been put in, the time has come for some reward in the next Budget. In the immortal words

Cards: You may think that - but I couldn't possibly comment.". But even as Mr Clarke strove to lift the spirits of the conference with the prospect that the November Budget would be

the first in a rolling programme of tax cuts, a shock jump in inflation threw a spanner in his budgetary arithmetic and depressed hopes of an early cut in interest rates. Retail price inflation rose in September from 3.6 per cent to 3.9 per cent, its

of Francis Urquhart in House of highest since June 1992. The RPI increase was particularly unwelcome to the Chancellor because the September figure is used to uprate social security benefits to take account of inflation. According to the De-

partment of Social Security, the Government will now have to find £2.8bn to finance the inflation uprating of benefits next fi-nancial year, 1996/97, £650m more than had been projected less than a year ago at the time

of the last Budget.
The extra expenditure is necessary because the Treasury was unduly optimistic about the outlook for inflation when it prepared the public spending plans last year. At the time of the last Budget, it assumed

that retail price inflation would next Budget and that his abili-be 3 per cent this September ty to reduce taxes depended on be 3 per cent this September rather than the 3.9 per cent it turned out to be.

Hopes of an early cut in interest rates also receded in the light of the disappointing figure for inflation. As recently as last week, the City was expecting almost a quarter per cent cut in base rate by December from its present level of 6.75 per cent. Sources close to Mr Clarke insisted that he was not giving any specific hints about the

Treasury success in the current highly problematic public spending round. He repeated emphatically that taxes would only be cut "when it is in the interests of the British economy

to do so". He added that "when we cut taxes it will be for keeps. [Tony] Blair is terrified that we might be able to do it - that we might be able to cut taxes."

Inflation setback, page 23

OUR

A tale of Flopsy, Mopsy and public enemy No 1

PETER VICTOR

The Isle of Man's public enemy number one - the 1abbit can breathe casier today. The price on its head, or tail, was revoked yesterday amid allegations of fraud, corruption and unscrupulous bounty hunters.

in an attempt to eliminate rabbits from the island. Local farmers complained a plague of the animals was decimating crops.

There is no suggestion that this is in any way connected with the absence of tails among the Isle's cat population.

Myxamytosis, the natural check on the rabbit population, was on the wane and the Manx For 10 years the Manx rab- government offered a reward of

Pitch battle

A battle for the rights to

broadcast Premier League

hit has lived under the gun. A 35p per rabbit, paid on pre-bounty scheme was brought in sentation of the animal's tail.

Since the scheme was launched a mountain of stumps, up to 800 a week, have been handed in to the officers of the

But even rabbits could not have bred quickly enough to explain the mounting tally of kills. There were ugly rumours of a burgeoning import trade with the mainland. People were reported arriving at island ports

Department of Agriculture in with sacks full of talls gathered [scheme] was generated in Douglas and rewards totalling from overseas butchers' shops. Police were called in when the tally of tails hit 264,000.

Manx agriculture minister John Corrin said yesterday that one of his civil servants had been dismissed as a result of the inquiry and the scheme was being chopped forthwith. "This he added.

were too many rabbits," he

"Hard evidence is hard to come by but I've heard tales of people importing, and even of teddy bears being cut up and made to look like rabbit tails."

IN BRIEF

Rughy stars fall drug tests Three rugby league players were sent home from the World Cup after failing drug tests. South Africa's Pierre Grobbelnar tested positive for the anabolic steroid nandrolone. The New Zealand hooker Syd Eru had traces of a banned substance and Stephane Millet of France tested

positive for cannabis.

football is looming as rival bidders line up to wrest the sport's top televised matches from Sky television. At least three groups are expected to take on Rupert Murdoch. Page 8 Page 32

Kipling meets with Triumph

Rudyard Kipling's If was voted the na-

tion's favourite poem, followed by

works by Stevie Smith, WB Yeats,

Wordsworth and WH Auden. Shake-

speare and the bookmakers' other

Wests 'sex-obsessed' Sex dominated the household at 25 Cromwell Street, with Rosemary and Frederick West admitting that they had an open marriage, Winchester Crown Court was told. Rosemary slept with two male lodgers the night they moved in, the jury heard. Page 4

Ceasefire holds The Bosman ceasefire was generally holding, although there were reports of serious fighting between Bosn-

ian Serb and Muslim forces



COMMENT Pam Ayres: "What happens to the people who say 'Know 'ee, do 'ee,' Mrs Shephard?" Page 20 Germaine Greer: Why I have given up answer-

Wilkes's Diary: Labour plans to write a 40ft-high Blair quotation in the Blackpool sands. Page 19 News Analysis: How money from television is transforming sport.

Leading article: Is Kenneth Clarke about to risk his reputation for prudence in pursuit of short-term political gain?

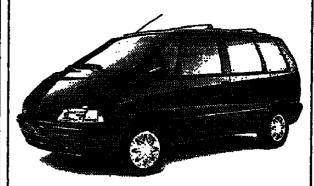
Weather: England and Wales will start misty with thick grey fog in places, but warm sunshine will break through by this Section Two, page 37



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Crackdown targets violence and burglaries

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Political Correspondent

Michael Howard's proposals, outlined to the Tory Party conference yesterday, would see the end of automatic early release for prisoners, a tough new sentencing regime for violence and sex offences and, for the first time, minimum sentences for

burglars and hard drug dealers. To the longest standing ovation of the conference so far, the Home Secretary declared that sultation on the as yet uncosted

THE PROPOSALS

under White Paper proposals covering England and Wales, to be published next year, "model prisoners" would get a little time off their sentences for good behaviour.

Everyone else should serve their sentence in full... no more half-time sentences for fulltime crimes," Mr Howard said. The final shape of the crack-down will be decided after conWhite Paper, and included in a Crime Bill in the parliamentary ssion after next.

But under radical new proposals for the sentencing of serious violent and sexual offenders, Mr Howard said there was a "strong case" for saying that anyone convicted for the second time should automatically receive a life sentence. These prisoners would only be released when they no longer posed a risk to the pub-lic, Mr Howard said, adding: "If

The White Paper will suggest that burglars and hard-drug dealers be subject to minimum sentences on a third offence reflecting the American "three strikes and you're out" policy. Mr Howard said: "Burglary is a foul crime. It defiles people's memories." He added: "The same is true of dealers in hard drugs. They prey on the young, the lonely and the vulnerable."

they continued to pose a risk, life really would mean life." Police Superintendents' Association annual conference that he was "surprised" at a survey showing that only 10 per cent of first-time burglars were jailed by magistrates' courts. In Crown Courts the average sentence for burglars with 10 or more previous convictions was 17.6 months. A new minimum is likely to be several years more. The move could bring some lower sentences, because of the abolition of early release and be-

the minimum. While conceding that risk at a briefing for jour-nalists, Mr Howard insisted that the overall effect would be stiffer sentences. At present, the only minimum sentences are the mandatory life sentence for murder and the one-year automatic ban for drink-driving.

The maximum sentence for serious violent and sexual crimes is life imprisonment. But, said Mr Howard, offenders did not always get life, and Mr Howard told last week's cause some might sentence at could offend again. Under the

Home Secretary's proposals. the net would be spread widely, imposing a life sentence for second offences of attempted murder, threat or conspiracy to murder, manslaughter, infanticide, and manslaughter due to

diminished responsibility. The same would apply to wounding or any other act which endangers life, rape, going to a crime equipped with a weapon, and unlawful sexual intercourse or incest with a girl

Under current rules on the release of prisoners, offenders iailed for less than four years are automatically released after serving half their sentence. Those serving more can be re-leased at the half-way point and, if not, are automatically released on licence at the twothirds point. Mr Howard proposes to sweep that away, replacing it with strictly limited. and earned, remission of 15 per cent of the sentence for model

Portrait of a judge: Controversy has followed the legal chief who sought the common touch

Liberal approach of a man used to courting trouble

JASON BENNETTO

With nearly 40 years experience as a street-wise criminal lawyer from the north of England Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, is used to confrontation.

Drawing on his own roots he comes from a Jewish family in Newcastle, where his father was a doctor - he has tried to dis-tance himself from the popular view of the judiciary as estab-lishment, and therefore conservative, minded. He has always thought his Jewish background helped make him more sympathetic and liberal. Asked why he thought he had be-come Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, 66, said: "I would like to think that I am not thought to be, rightly or wrongly, wholly out of touch - that I am in the mainstream of life in the country."

Peter Taylor was educated at a Newcastle's Royal Grammar school he won a scholarship to go to Cambridge University. He was called to the Bar in

1954 and as a barrister, prosecuted some high profile trials including those of the corrupt property developer, John Poulson, and the former Liberal

leader, Jeremy Thorpe.

He became a High Court judge in 1980 and an Appeal Court judge in 1988 until he became Lord Chief Justice. He Hillsborough disaster in 1989. A keen supporter of Newcastle's rugby and football teams, was able to reflect on his own recollection of the terraces and fear of being hemmed in.

1992 as the second most powerful member of the judiciary after the Lord Chancellor, he has his calls for the legal profession done much to open up his new post to public scrutiny and has allowed unprecedented media

who is also the head of the court



Sitting in judgment: The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, in his London office yesterday

Photograph: John Voos

of criminal appeal, has already had a number of public spats over government policy. He chided them for their propos-als restricting a suspect's right to silence and criticised the delay in setting up a review body for miscarriages of justice. Ironwho criticised the "penologists, criminologists and bureaucrats in government departments", whom he blamed for the Criminal Justice Act 1991 which prevented the judges from Since his appointment in sending persistent offenders to

Lord Taylor is also robust in to move with the times. He recently gave women barristers permission to wear trousers in court and is keen for the pro-Lord Taylor of Gosforth, fession to be open to anyone. While considered something suppose."

of a liberal compared to his predecessor Lord. Lane. he still has a reputation for being very tough and has been criticised for making conservative appointments and has refused to change the judicial appointments' system, which is still

Yesterday he attended the memorial service of his wife, Irene, who died in July after a long illness. He has three daughters and one son.

When not wrapped up in the rigours of the legal world he enjoys playing the piano and until the age of 17 fostered ambitions to become a concert pianist. He told one interviewer: "It enables me to express feelings at the keyboard which would be quite inappropriate on the Bench, so it's a contrast, I

Lord Taylor's statement in full

Lorig semences sometimes very long semences, are necessary in some cas-treater protect the public. But I do not believe that the threat of jacoss the locator and detect habitual committees.
What detect them, is the likelihood of being chight, which at the moment is small.
I recently saw the Service Charteepublished by one police force. The chief constable had belief directic burgary a priority area, and had set a target of 15% for the describe of Johnestic burgaries.

Lightly of chartesis of the police, who do their best within the limited rescurres they are switch.

their best wowever.

The given anyone fielder that a professional hungar, who knows he has at most only these chances in 20 of being cought will be detented by the possible addition of six ordinary or even two years to his sentence?

The Schröning framework which Sies outres apply is could held in the Chapter Lustice Acts 1995, and 1995.

There are manifold contained in file in prisonment for particle and large reflicting and 14 was a first chapter the prison of the could be a second through the could be a second to the could be a second t

14 years for comestic burgary though this. Government interestingly reduced the political of burgary of non-residential premises from 14 years to 10 in 1991).

Tudges apply this tramework conscientiously, but must be thee for it the particular numitiment to the particular crime if justice is to be clone.

Minimum senierioes are inconsistent with doing justice according to the circumstances of each case instead of similar indicated instead of similar indicated instead of similar indicated the product stands with the restricted they are in the form of the circumstance of the indicated with the restricted they are in the form of the circumstance of the product of the restricted they are in the form of the form of the restricted they are in the form of the form of the restricted they are in the form of the fo

Delegates drool over tough line

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

Two, or three, strikes and you're out - reflecting the American approach to repeat offenders -served Michael Howard well yesterday, ensuring one of the smoothest rides ever for a Home Secretary at a Tory conference.

Delighted representatives

streamed out of the debate repeatedly declaring that the Home Secretary had made a "wonderful" speech, with the only complaint being that he had not yet introduced compulsory identity cards.

One delegate, Alistair Glanville, from Wells, was booed by some representatives for speaking out against them. Mr Howard said later that consultation on the proposal had only finished a formight ago. Yesterday's announcements

meanwhile spawned high praise. Daniel Walton, from Brosbourne, said: "It was an impressive speech. I am disappointed he didn't mention identity cards because that would be a tremendous way forward. But the idea of minimum sentences should be extended to magistrates' courts so they are consistent nationally, and it should be extended to other offences." Like other represenCONTRACTOR OF STREET

the abolition of automatic early release, adding: "There should be corporal punishment and hanging, certainly for planned murders." He added: We have always been tough on crime. It is not something we have found as an electoral promise, like Tony Blair."

Balwant Singh Bahra, from Coventry South, said Mr Howard had made a "wonderful speech, promoting law and order. Five years should mean five years," he said. He was unimpressed by the criticisms of Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Jus-tice. "The Government has to frame the law. The judges follow the law," he said.

But if representatives were inclined to ignore Lord Taylor's call for more money for the police to catch criminals, there were concerns about the costs of a rising jail population. Sophia Taylor, of West Lan-cashire, said the speech was "wonderful and very necessary" but added: "How will they pay to put them in prison?"

Barbara Couchman, a JP, voiced concerns about a dramatically scaled down remission system. There must be hope of coming out and incentives to

Labour attacks 'bizarre mix'

HEATHER MILLS

Home Secretary Michael Howard's latest anti-crime package was widely condemned by the opposition and virtually all in the criminal justice system, including judges, lawyers and prison staff.

Jack Straw, shadow home secretary said Mr Howard's speech was "a bizarre mixture" of complacency and desperation. "He was complacent about the level of recorded crime, which has more than doubled under the Tories, and desperate because he knows that the Tories are no longer trusted on law and order."

Alan Beith, Liberal Democrat home affairs spokesman said Mr Howard's proposals were "merely window-dressing" for the party faithful. Echo-



OPPOSITION

ing Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, he condemned the Government over the high level of crime that was not being cleared up. "There was not a word about providing more police of-ficers to tackle crime and catch

criminals," Mr Beith protested. The main criticism was the inherent danger is taking away judges powers to fix sentences - thereby denying them the ability to hand out different punishments to reflect the differing severity of a crime. But the second was that the uncosted plans would lead to a massive leap in the prison pep-ulation which, at over 52,000 the highest in Europe, is already

bursting at the scams.
The end of remission was likely to lead to an increase of 15,000 on a daily basis, the clampdown on buildies could lead to a further 5,000.

Research has shown that locking up so many extra people would only lead to less than two-per-cent drop in crific but the costs of building running the new jails would aim into billions.

Prison staff were fearfull at the ending of remission would mean there was no intentive prisoners to behave. Combet problems of overcrowding could provide the explosive this which lead to the riets at Strangeways.

Rift marks new low in confrontational relationship

The Lord Chief Juscice's extraordinary public condemna-tion of the Home Secretary's latest "lock 'em up" initiative, marks an all-time low in their relationship.

Judges guard their independence lealously and it will have been Michael Howard's threat of yet more fetters on discretion that most upset Lord Taylor.

Coming at a time, when judges and the Lords are anxious to abolish the mandatory life sentence for murder - saying it is unfair to sentence a terrorist to the same penalty as a battered wife who kills - it is not surprising that Lord Taylor



spoke out at the imposition of yet more curbs on their scope to reflect differences in crime

longer and longer periods of imprisonment across the board will House of Lords. His support for

through sentencing.
What is surprising is that he cast his critical net far more widely to include criminal justice policy generally. His was the loudest voice, among many, to say more resources need spend-ing on detection and policing rather than incarceration. "I do not believe that the threat of

likelihood of being caught, which at the moment is small." As the head of the Court of Appeal and the country's most.

senior professional judge, he will not have been speaking simply for himself, when he launched his attack. He had taken advice from other senior judges and been assured of their support. Despite Mr Howard's public dismissal of Lord Taylor's com-ments last night, the Home Secretary must be worried by the ferocity of the attack. Lord

Taylor is very influential in the

said. "What deters them is the erode the right to silence was be spent elsewhere." Seven oth-likelihood of being caught, crucial to the success of last er judges came out in support. year's Criminal Justice Act. But he was also instrumental in

watering down its impact. He is a powerful enemy to have made. But he is not the first judge to have spoken out against Mr Howard's tough criminal justice policy. In 1993, Lord Woolf described his last law-and-order initiative as short sighted and irresponsible. "The easy option which has a miserable record of failure is to send more and more people to prison regardless of the consequences, including the shocking

er judges came out in support. Mr Howard was stung, but clearly not deterred from incurring judicial wrath when Lord Taylor made clear his

tween judges and ministers have taken place for many years, it is only since Lord Taylor took office in 1992 that judges have so damagingly and publicly voiced their views out-

Lord Lane, his predecessor, was known to have had violent disagreements with previous

deter habitual criminals," he the controversial decision to waste of resources which could Home Secretaries, but re-The judges' desire to speak out has coincided with their

changing role as law makers in Britain's unwritten constitution. The "new" judiciary are inviews at an informal meeting creasingly called upon, and last week. While such chars be unafraid, to protect the citizen against the state. Judicial review of government decisions has been a big growth area in the law. And Michael Howard has been forced to amend legislation and change government policy more than any other minister.

> **HEATHER MILLS** Home Affairs Correspondent





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Forget Shakespeare and Pam Ayres, Kipling's poem is chosen as the nation's favourite

If you can keep your head when all about you Are losing theirs and blaming it on you, If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, But make allowance for their doubting too; If you can wait and not be tired by waiting, Or being lied about, don't deal in lies, Or being hated, don't give way to hating, And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master; If you can make one heap of all your winnings If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim: If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster And treat those two imposters just the same; If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools, Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken, And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss. And lose, and start again at your beginnings And never breathe a word about your loss; If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew To serve your turn long after they are gone, And so hold on when there is nothing in you Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch. If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you. if all men count with you, but none too much; If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run, Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

Rudyard Kipling

British voters keep their heads and say 'If' is the best of all

MARIANNE MACDONALD Arts Reporter

favourite poem — an event which could have provided Britain's most embarrassing publicity since the survey which found that Rolf Harris was the public's best-known artist ended respectably, if not with a

After six days of voting the people's choice, with more than double the votes of its nearest rival, turned out to be Rudyard Kipling's If — admittedly redo-tent of the former O-Level sylabus, but the work of a Nobel aureate none the less.

The rest of the Top 10, however, turned up some surprises. They were Tennyson's The Lady f Shallot; Walter de la Mare's The Listener, Stevie Smith's Not Waving But Drowning; Wordsworth's Daffodils ("He vandered lonely as a cloud"); Keats's To Autumn and his Ode o A Nightingale; WB Yeats' The ake Isle of Innisfree and He Vishes For The Cloths Of Heav-

en and Wilfred Owen's war poem, Duice Et Decorum Est.

The poll to find the nation's A poll to find the nation's favourite poem began on Sat-favourite poem — an event urday and finished at noon yesterday, National Poetry Day. Nominations - of any poem in the world - were made by 7,500 calls to a premium-rate telephone number by members of the public. Votes were cast for more than 200 authors and almost 1,000 poems, with Cargoes, John Masefield's rhythmic tour de force, and Lewis Carroll's Jabberwocky both losing an early

> The choice of If comes as something as a relief to staff of BBC's The Bookworm, who organised the poll and arranged for the acclaimed Shakespearean actor, Sir Ian McKellen, to read the top choices on BBC1 at 10.20pm tonight. There had been pessimistic

speculation that the public would go for a poem rather lighter in tone, such as Pam Ayres's Oh, I Wish I'd Looked After Me Teeth, a ditty on the

The Top Ten

1) 'If', Rudyard Kinking 2) The Lady of Shallot', Alfred, Lord Tennyson 3) The Listener'. Watter de la Mare 4) 'Not Waving but Drowning, Stevie Smith. 5) 'Daffodils',

William Wordsworth 6) To Autumn', John Keats 7) The Lake Isle of Innisfree', WB Yeats 8) Dulce et Decorum Est', Wilfred Owen

9) 'Ode to a Nightingale', John Keats 10) 'He Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven', WB

But although it won a following, it was more than balanced by the votes for poems by Byron, Keats, Robert Frost, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Wil-

fred Owen, John Donne and Thomas Gray.

The favourite modern poets to emerge from the survey were Carol Ann Duffy and Simon Armitage, while the children's vote was overwhelmingly in favour of Quentin Blake and Allan Ahlberg.

The only great British poet who failed to win a respectable share was, oddly enough, William Shakespeare, even though the bookmakers Ladbrokes had laid odds of two to one that Sonnet 18 ("Shall I compare thee to a summer's day") would win.

In fact, none of the poems chosen by the bookies as top favourites - William Blake's The Tyger, John Donne's Holy Sonnet, Elizabeth Barrett Browning's Sonnet From The Portuguese ("How do I love thee? Let me count the ways") and WH Auden's Funeral Blues, famously quoted in the film Four Weddings And A Funeral -

came close. Some poems nominated completely baffled Daisy Good-

win, The Bookworm's executive producer, and poetry experts. Last night, they were trying to identify Anne Marie Cusack's Puradise (15 votes) and Hazel Shrumpkin's My Memories.

Other problems stemmed

from the difficulties experienced by the staff drafted in to decipher the names of the poets and poems from the answernhone messages left by callers. They recorded numerous votes for a weird character called Lord Bryon, while other suspicious nominations included Allergy In A Country Churchyard, Golchy et Gwackorum Est, The Rhubart of O' Mark I Am, AA Milne's Vespas and Not

Wading But Drowning.

Ms Goodwin said she was

delighted with the results. "The range of votes is incredible. Apart from Hazel Shrumpkin and Anne Marie Cusack, pretty much every well-known poet got votes. It shows that the great British public is a lot more discerning about poetry than anyone would give them credit



The nation's choice: Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936), whose classic poem 'If', was a favourite of Marie Curie, his contemporary and a fellow Nobel prize-winner

Day: for better or verse?

William Seighart successfully broke down the barriers to make poetry fun

ne of the oddest things about aloud. If you can break through lying to start a National Poet-Day some 13 months ago was nat most of the people I spoke thought that there already as one. And, coupled with that ddness, came the excitement hat almost everyone was will-

ig to help. What began as an idea in the ath quickly became a bandagon that swept through ritain and Ireland, supported y what can only be described a group of "poetry com-landos" sandbagging broad-isters, publishers and blicists to back this fanciful heme. Any doubts as to the

ptential pitfalls were set aside

venues were booked, poem-

hour alla

IZHTE M

pwerful organisations like the BC and the Arts Council ofrred enthusiastic support. Why do it? Because it's fun. Ve set out to break down the arriers and embarrassment sociated with reading poetry erry Day.

our traditional Anglo-Saxon reticence and allow more of the Celtic into our lives we would all admit to liking a little poetry from somewhere. Poetry is magnificent companion in this busy modern world, often giving us a vocabulary for emotions we cannot express.

The public response to National Poetry Day shows that we have succeeded in our aim - poerry is alive, well and kicking. It was and is a call to arms for everyone who loves poetry to join in the fun. I hope the work of the Forward Poetry Trust, with organisations like The Poerry Society, help to dispel any remaining prejudice people have about the role of poetry in ards and posters printed and their lives. Here's to next year.

> William Sieghart is Director of Forward Publishing and Chair-man of the Forward Poetry Trust which administers National Po-



William Sleghart above, and Ken Smith, below



And yes, I have to say that anything that promotes poetry has

National Poetry Day is here

again, the second of its ilk.

And apt. In the last two decades writing poetry became one of the few growth industries in this ailing isle. As the dole accountants. Result: more poqueues lengthened it seemed to writing. Groups and centres and courses sprang up - con-

temporary poetry and creative writing entered the national curriculum, poets entered schools and pubs and prisons. For the young and uncoming there are more and more glittering prizes, and in recent years young poets have been gong off like bombs. They now talk about their "careers".

Even so, a recent Arts Council inquiry into who knows what in poetry was a triumph for the niliar and the banal. And anyway, what's it all for, when the market share is shrinking?

The collapse of the Net Book Agreement means less poetry will get published, with fewer bookshops in which to find it. Recent major casualties in the poetry publishing trade represent decisions made not by poetry lovers or promoters but by

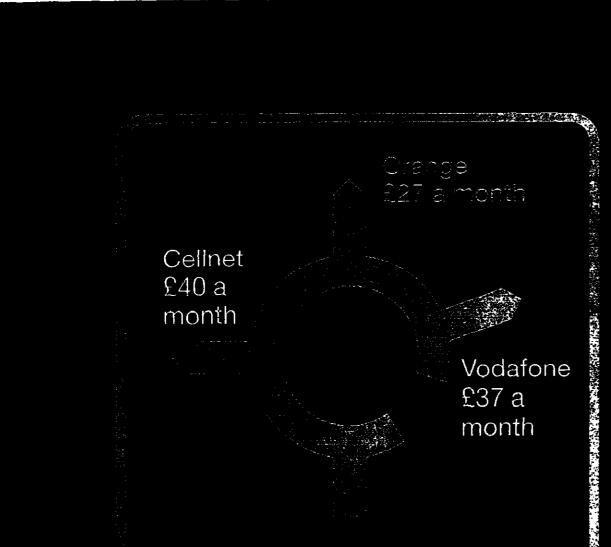
But poet Ken Smith rues the fact that

poetry's share of the market is shrinking

ets chasing fewer publishers. Anyway, and here's the rub: last year on this day there was a lot of poetic activity by poets. This year, it seems to be readings of favourite poems by celebrities, the safe familiar verse declaimed by the safe and familiar faces.

And what will I be doing on National Poetry Day? Bugger All. Bab humbug.

Ken Smith's publications in clude The Poet Reclining, Terra Wormwood, The Heart of the Border, Tender to the Queen of Spain, Inside Time, Berlin Coming in from the Cold.



A recent independent survey showed that taking the wrong turning could prove costly.

Toxic gas blamed

for miner's death The Mines Inspectorate 1st night launched an inquiry ino the death of a miner thought o have been asphyxiated after at inrush of gas 650 metres below ground at Thoresby colliery, a

Andrew Fielding, 39, a 1-

Nottinghamsbire.

The Rosemary West trial: Woman accused of 10 murders had 'open marriage', say Cromwell Street boarders

Lodgers tell of couple driven by sex

WILL BENNETT

Sex dominated the household at 25 Cromwell Street, with Rosemary and Frederick West admitting that they had an open marriage and both of them sleeping with lodgers. Winchester Crown Court was told yesterday.

Shirley Robinson, a lodger whose remains were later found with those of a foetus at the Mrs West had sex with two men on the first night they moved into a bed sitting room there.
"They used to embarrass me

quite a lot by talking about their open marriage or sex," said Elizabeth Brewer, who moved into Cromwell Street as a lodger

The court also heard that Lynda Gough, whose remains were found in the cellar, was a regular visitor to the house where she had affairs with several lodgers and that Juanita Mott, another victim, rented a

Mrs West, 41, denies murdering 10 girls and young women whose remains were found at Cromwell Street and at the Wests' previous home in

Mr West, who was charged with 12 murders, was found dead in his prison cell on 1 January this year.

Mrs Brewer told the court vesterday that she moved into a £7 a week bedroom at 25 Cromwell Street when she was

West had what she called her "special room" which was al-ways kept locked.

She said: "I would constantly be informed about their open marriage and that Rose had her boyfriends and Fred had his girlfriends. They were quite happy to have an open marriage.

"There would be times when they mentioned that they knew about people's personal sex lives and Mrs West said that when she retired she was going house in Gloucester, became pregnant by Mr West while to spend her whole retirement engaged in sexual activity." Mrs Brewer said that both

Shirley Robinson, 16, and Mrs West were pregnant at the time and that one day she saw Shirley and Mr West kissing and cuddling outside the girl's room.

She became friendly with Shirley who asked her if she could stay in Mrs Brewer's room. She told the court: "She needed to keep away from Mr and Mrs West. She spent all the time in my room."

She said that "there was a

breakdown in communication" between Shirley and the couple and that Mr West told her that Shirley was becoming too pos-sessive towards him. Shirley vanished in May, 1978.

Linda Greening, a neigh-bour who lived directly opposite 25 Cromwell Street told the court that she was pregnant at the same time as Mrs West and Shirley and was invited over for a cup of tea.

She said that she was "shocked" when Mrs West told her that Mr West was the father of Shirley's unborn child . She



seem upset by this. Earlier, Benjamin Stannihad sex with her.

met Lynda Gough in Gloucester and brought her back to Cromwell Street where she be-

came a regular visitor over the next six to seven months.

topped living at the house?"
Mr Stanniland replied: "Only on one occasion. I went downsome cleaning up and on open-ing the door she was there."

Richard Ferguson QC, de-fending Mrs West, he said that Mrs Owens was not crying and that he did not notice any bruising on her face.

He said that during the period of about 14 months that he spent at Cromwell Street in 1972-3, the Gloucestershire police raided tenants at the house looking for drugs.

visiting the house. Mr Evans said: "Rose came

up one morning and said that Lynda Gough had hit her daughter while babysitting and that she would not be coming back to the house again."

The last time he saw Lynda was when she had an argument with Alan Davies, another odger, and it was after that that Mrs West told him that she had been sacked as the babysitter.

The jury was also read records from Gloucester Royal Hospital yesterday. The first showed that Mr West was admitted to the casualty unit at 25 minutes past midnight on Jan-uary 3, 1974, with a severe lac-eration to his right hand.

This was a week after Lucy Partington, whose remains were found in the Cromwell Street cellar, disappeared in Cheltenham. A knife was found with her bones in the grave.
The second showed that Mrs
West was admitted to the hos-

pital on 13 August 1974 with a Evans, another former tenant. cut to her right hand. who was convicted and fined for When she arrived at the caing cannabis. He said sualty department she gave the

reason for the wound as "play-

ing around with knives" to the house three times during The jury will visit 25 Asked about Mrs West, Mr Cromwell Street next Thursday. Evans said: "She was the land-Mr Justice Manteil, the judge, lady but she would come upsaid he had reservations about stairs now and again because she liked sex." He said they had the trip but granted their request to look round the house and garden.

He told the jury of eight The case continues today.

men and four women that he had also had a sexual relationship with Lynda Gough for a time but she suddenly stopped

ther-of-two, is the first fataliy at a pit run by RJB Minin. which last year bought the bus of British Coal. Two other miers and four rescue workes were treated for breathing problems. The National Unio of Mineworkers said miners 1 the pit had been complaining fr

weeks about oil fumes. Boy in murder case A 13-year-old boy is to apper in court today accused of the murder of a vagrant found burning in a park at Eastleig,

Hampshire, last month. Ala Whittle, 50, died from h Mail iobs threat

The Royal Mail dismissed claims by the Communicatio Workers Union that a leaked management report reveals t plans to axe 1,200 full and ten porary jobs over the next s: months in Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Three die in arson A murder inquiry was launchd after Diane Jones, 22, and he daughters aged two and or died in a fire at their home 1 Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorga.

Police found petrol around the front door. Sikh wins review Karamjit Singh Chahal, 47a Sikh who has been held in jil

for five years while he tricso fight deportation to India, wn permission to seek judial review in the High Court of Is detention. The Government says he is a terrorist.

Beggar banned

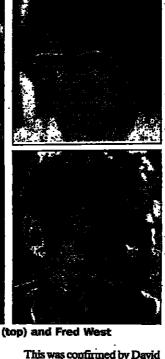
Michael Walker, 41, a begge was banned "indefinitely" from St Mary's Church, Saffro Walden, and St John's, Started, both in Essex, after a Hih Court judge granted an injuction following complaints to stole from collection boxes ad abused visitors.

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BACK ISSUES



that drug squad officers came

this period.

Ben Stanniland (left) and David Evans, lodgers at the Cromwell Street home of Rose (top) and Fred West

added that Mrs West did not

land, another former lodger at the house, recalled how Mrs West got into bed with him and a friend called Alan Davies on their first night at the house. This was the only time that they

Mr Stanniland said that be

He said that he also remembered Caroline Owens, who was the victim of a sex attack by the Wests for which they were subsequently fined. Brian Leve-son QC, prosecuting, asked: "Did you see her after she had

stairs to bang on Mrs West's

Under cross examination by

Young blames BR for 56% fares hike

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

sexual intercourse once.

Sir George Young, the Secretary of State for Transport, stirred up a political row by blaming British Rail for the 56 per cent fares increased imposed on a group of commuters in the West Country.

In a statement issued yester-day. Sir George also said that it was the type of problem which privatisation was designed to solve, but his remarks were immediately dismissed as "ludicrous" by Labour.

The increase was imposed by the Regional Railways South Wales and West train company for early-morning travellers between Exmouth and Paignton and came to light following complaint by the father of 13year-old schoolboy Steven Sil-

John Silverman found that the seven-week season ticket for his son to travel the seven miles to Torre station, Torquay, to go to school had risen from £38.25

A letter from South Wales and West to Mr Silverman said that the price changes were made because of an extreme demand situation". Apparently 250 people, mainly local students, have being trying to cram onto the 150-seater 7.20am train and the return 4.12pm was

also very overcrowded. The rail company says it does not have the additional rolling stock to increase the length of the train.

Sean O'Neill, the secretary of the local passenger watchdog, RUCC, said that his organisation had not been alerted about the rise by the train operator. "There is supposed to be a statutory duty for them to inform us but the system has not worked since the rec of the railways in 1994," he said.

Eryl Jones, spokesman for South Wales and West said that the increase on the Exmouth to Paignton line was unique: 'Overall, our fares went up in May by just under the national inflation rate. And several fares have gone down."



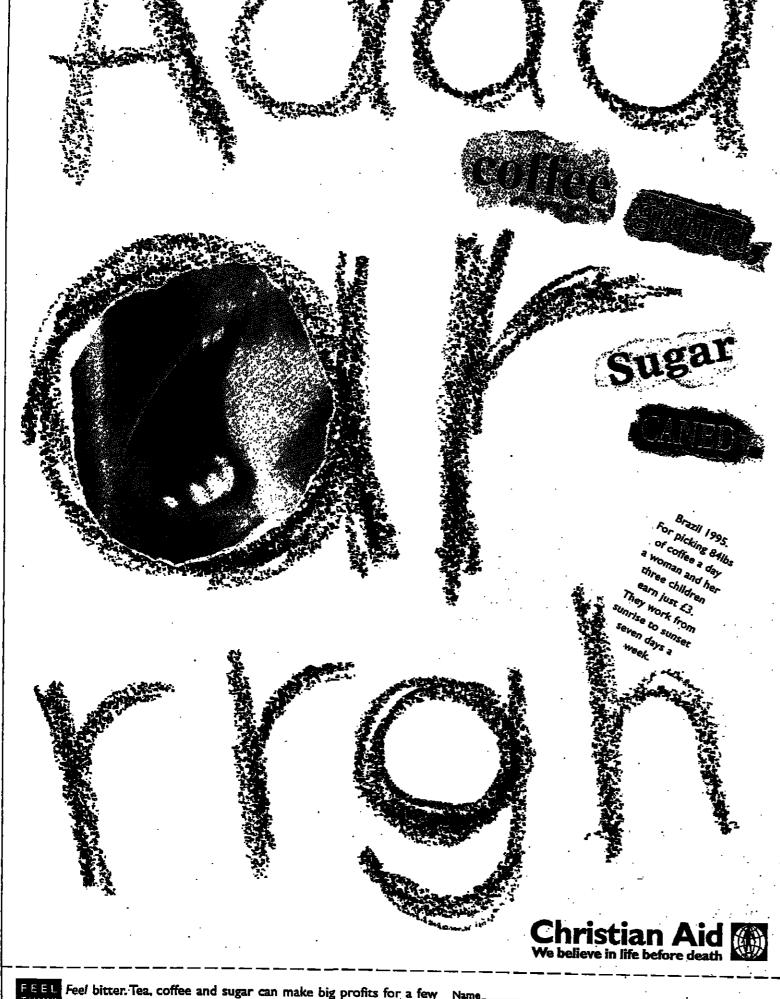
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Clarke targets Middle England

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

The Chancellor yesterday warned the conference that cuts in public expenditure to pay

for tax cuts could mean changes Urging his party to support the spending cuts, which will be announced with the Budget in November, Kenneth Clarke said "controlling spending re-

quires policy change as well". He also reaffirmed the Government's priority to low inflation at the heart of its economic strategy. Mr Clarke sought to offer the hard-pressed Tory voters in "Middle England" the prospect of rewards in the

But he was given a lukewarm applaise at the end of a debate on the economy that exposed some of the widespread unrest in the party over the past increases in taxes and the plight of home buyers.

He was given a dutiful standing evation, with Baroness Thatcher and the Prime Minister symbolically side-by-side on the patform for the first time. but it registered one of the lowest readings of the week on the independent's clapometer.

Met 44 . 50

Facing calls from the hall for tax a lowances for housewives, and the restoration of mortgage tax relief for home owners, Mr Clarke said many felt "the time has ome for some reward in the next Budget".
Using the words of Francis

Urgian in The House of Cards to confirm their hopes would be fulfilled, Mr Clarke went on: You may think that - but I

coulin't possibly comment." The Chancellor made it clear



Laughing matter: The Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, in jocular mood at Blackpool yesterday

"Middle England" and his ward to a lot more than the last speech targeted the demands two," said Mr Clarke, who for help in nearly 200 motions

for the economic debate. traditional values. It will be a Middle Wales and Middle Scot-

raised £3.9bn in taxes in 1994. "It will be a Budget that ad-"It will be a Budget based on dresses Middle England, and

"The people who are hard-working and self-reliant. Our start than they had themselves." Mr Clarke added: "Cutting the people who want to get on. Our tax we want to cut can't be done people who take responsibility all in one go. It must not be for themselves and for their done thoughtlessly and it must families. Our people who want to give their children a better tinuing into the future.

Photograph: Brian Harris

"We will only cut taxes when it is in the interests of the British economy to do so. The British people are a responsible people who would not want it any other way. So when we cut taxes, it will last. When we cut taxes, it will be for keeps. Mr Blair is terrified that we might be able to cut taxes."

The Labour leader was "just the smile on the face of the Labour movement", he said. Real Labour, behind its grinning leader, was "gritting its teeth and biting its tongue till after the next election".

Mr Clarke urged supporters to write to him with evidence of Labour spending pledges, and made it clear the Tories will seek to repeat the 1992 election campaign against Labour's alleged "tax bombsheil".

In the debate, Edward Russell (South Shields) said the cut 10 per cent cut in Miras had caused "a great slump in our

popularity".

A three-year rolling programme of tax cuts, starting in the next Budget, was demanded by Robert Guy (Richmond). Pauline Blow (West Midlands) said married one-earner families were at a disadvantage compared to two-earner parents and single parents. "Transferable tax allowances would help," she said. "We are asking you to give one-earner couples the tax advantages that dualearner couples have."

John Godfrey, a former ministerial adviser, was heckled when he urged the Chancellor to adopt Gordon Brown's plan for a windfall profits tax on the privatised utilities. "Shame," shouted one representative. showing Mr Clarke he will have

Yesterday at the conference

-Erig or automatic early release for prisoners -Automatic life sentence on second offence for violent and sexuel crimi

 Stiff minimum sentence for tungers and drug dealers on third differce
 Crime Bill before election New orime prevention quango Network of migisters ecross Whitehall to promote small

Prospect of rolling programme of tax cuts

"I have no animus against Garmeny, but I don't want to be ruled by "I have no animus agrains certainly out tourit want to be ruled by them either." Bill Cash on the consequences of a facterel Europe.
"Ne got some advice on how to establish a small business – buy a big one, vote Labour," Andrew Bell, Homsey and Wood Green.
"Britain cen't efford a fabour government just to prove that Britain can't efford a fabour government." Pater Lilley.
"You know and I know that for Britain any Labour would be hard

labour." Michael Howard. "Some of you think I talk about Prudence so much that my wife should start getting worried." Kenneth Clarke

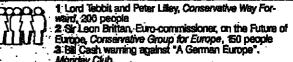
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he big three on the fringe



Lord Archers, night two, more champagne Lord Heaketha, night three, yet more champagne Conference Ball, Winter Gardens Tory Campaign for Homosexual Equality reception

John Major with entourage enjoying a fish and chip supper at The Cottage on the outsithts of Blackpoot

Hague attempts to bridge the age divide



Wiliam Hague: Lost youth

Political Correspondent

The youngest Cabinet minister, William Hague, 34, yesterday made an attempt to match Labour's claim to appeal to young people in a special conference session which paraded a series of young speakers pro-

claiming Tory values. The balding Mr Hague, Secretary of State for Wales, reconference at the even younger age of 16 in 1978, when he first

impressed Margaret Thatcher, as he led a drive to counter Tony Blair's "young country" theme.

Party strategists are acutely aware that the average age of Tory party members is 62, and that the representatives in Blackpool are markedly older than the delegates to last week's Labour conference in Brighton.

But Mr Hague claimed with Tory policies and beliefs. called his first speech to the Tory He said: "For the first time since in all its grubby and miserable generation which is not the our problem."

natural ally of the political left." He went on: "When I went to university, I used to debate with wild-eyed Marxist idealists who filled debating chambers with calls for unilateral disarmament and nationalisation." Now young people believed in "choice, freedom, indepen-

dence". But he admitted: "No one young people today are in tune younger than me can fully remember a Labour government the 1930s we are seeing a young detail. And it's true that that is

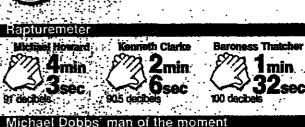
Called "Spotlight on the Young", the session was launched with a video featuring Sebastian Coe's 1984 gold medal for the 1500m in the Los Angeles Olympics. It was introduced by Mr Coe, 39, now the Tory MP for Falmouth: "I believe there is a gold medal in all of us," he told the conference. "Young people are not, as the Labour Party tried to tell us last week, sitting jelly-like wait-

ing for state handouts".

Mr Coe introduced some models of Conservative youth, cluded from the conference.

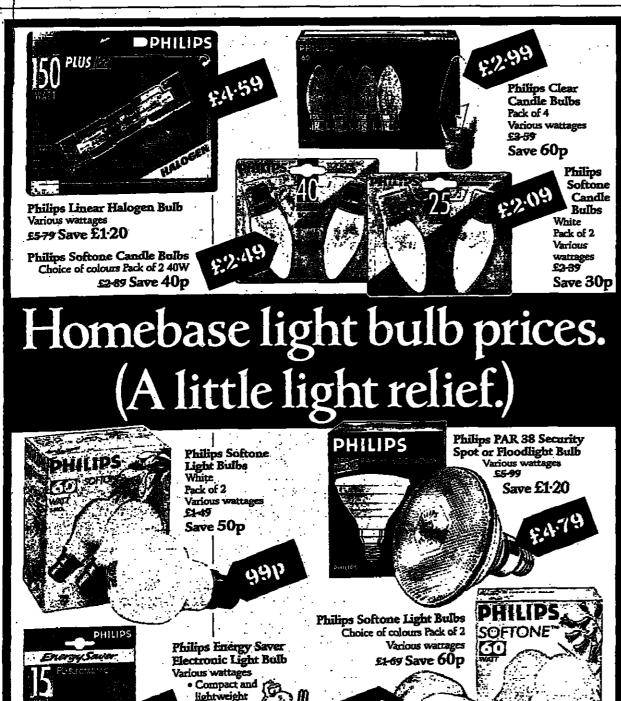
who addressed the conference, and interviewed some more in the front row, in a parody of the live television coverage. Clare Stowe, 23, a teacher from Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, linked Mr Coe's athletic achievements to Tory philosophy: "Children need to understand competitive games as life is competitive."

But one young Tory who did not speak was Justin Hinchcliffe, 14, the right-wing representative who provoked a row last week when it seemed he might be ex-



Lond (Bibble who social volumes for party unity without uttering a word by shaking sixth Major's hand on the platform

Today's speeches Today John Major makes his address and the faithful will stand and



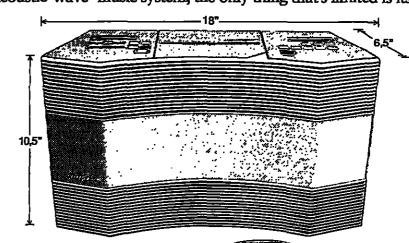
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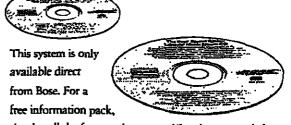
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Middlesex TW2 5UN. No stamp necessary Or fax to: 0181 894 7664. On the day he faced a con-ference frantic for personal tax cuts, the inflation figure for the year to September was announced as 3.9 per cent - and that is the figure that determines the uprating of benefits and

Yesterday we saw a Chancellor having to deal with a party which has been gripped by pre-electoral panic since the halfway mark of this parliament It would have taken incredible political nerve for the Chancellor not to offer tax cuts in the forthcoming budget. The 1922 Committee would tear him limb from limb. Yet there is no economic case at present for cuts in personal taxation, nor is it likely that they will buy the Tory party a political reprieve.

Clarke conceded yesterday that the tax cutters have won. We do not customarily think of Clarke as a coquettish politician, but he teased the conference with: "The time has come for some reward in the next budget." That has taken him beyond the point of no return.

Even as the Chancellor enlarged on what he meant by a budget that would be based on "traditional Tory values", he sought - poignantly, for me - to retrieve the irretrievable. It would be a budget for "our people who want to send their children to good state schools and be cared for by the NHS.. our people who have a social conscience and want a society



that can earn the wealth to give others less fortunate a helping hand." It will be interesting to see how, in November, he reconciles the two propositions - near-term tax cuts and desperately needed increases in

resources for key public services. In the rest of his speech the Chancellor, in conformity with conference ritual, bashed Labour and bashed Blair. It was half-hearted stuff and evoked a half-hearted response. We can hardly expect a par-

ty conference to be a seminar. yet it would be courteous to cit-izens watching on television, and possibly a better way to win favour, if Conservative ministers would treat us to some serious discussion. Ken Clarke simply asserted that a minimum wage and the social chapter would be damaging, but didn't begin to say why. Michael Howard said, at length, that criminals would spend longer in prison, and insisted again that "prison works". But he made no attempt to deal with the arguments against this. Labour's debates in Brighton were in a different league of constructive seriousness.

Alan Howarth defected from the Conservatives to the Labour Europe debate: Euro-sceptics back Defence Secretary as fall-out over speech worsens



Major drawn into Portillo row

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

The row intensified vesterday over Michael Portillo's tirade against Brussels as sources close to the Secretary of State for Defence confirmed that the Prime Minister had seen a text of the speech before it was delivered to the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool.

Some senior party officials sought to distance John Major from the damage caused by Mr

Portillo's speech by suggesting that he had approved the policy without seeing the text. But asked whether Mr Major had seen the text, a Portillo source said: "Of course."

That confirmation will embarrass the Prime Minister, and . is certain to lead to questions in the Commons next week over whether he approves of the line adopted by Mr Portillo. Some Cabinet colleagues are uncomfortable with the anti-Brussels tone set by Mr Portillo

and are looking to Mr Major to seek to repair some of the damage in his speech today to the conference. A senior official from the Eu-

to the BBC accusing Mr Portillo of "Brussels bashing," and questioning whether the Tories could lose the election over the anti-European tone adopted by Mr Portillo.

Peter Guilford, a senior spokesman for the commisput a question in a phone-in to Michael Heseltine, the deputy Prime Minister. Some senior Tories last night reacted with anger that a civil servant from Brussels should have inter-

vened in British politics.
Mr Guilford's question was:
How can Michael Heseltine sure those Britons on this side of the Channel who are inasingly convinced that ministerial Brussels-bashing will erode Britain's influence in the

when it needs it most, and may even help lose the Conservatives the next election?"

Mr Heseltine replied: "What Michael Portillo was talking about was the concept of a federalist state or the surrender of interests over British military discretion to authorities other than that of the British government. He was making it clear in language that drew attention to his views that we would not be in support of

ment on Mr Guilford's intervention, but Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, who is more pro-European, made clear his disagreement. "The fact that we are deriving enormous benefits from our place in Europe, the fact that our economies in the modern world are getting ever more integrated and inter-dependent, the fact that Britain must be a mover and shaker in determining how that market is run is vitally important," he said.

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Party faithful resolve to calm stormy waters

tax cuts for homeowners and

stephen goodwin and JOHN RENTOUL

Arriving on the conference platform to thunderous applause yesterday, Margaret Thatcher could take satisfaction on two counts: she still enjoys the affections of the party faithful, and they are clamouring with increased confidence for a return to her brand of hardedged Conservatism.

But to the relief of party man-agers there has been little of the bitter in-fighting that has characterised the last two Tory conferences. Differences are being suppressed in the long run-up to the election. visive issue with the sceptics ar-

guing against integration at a meeting organised by the numerous fringe meetings. However, one seasoned observer, Michael Dobbs, a former deputy chairman, said yesterday: We are now talking about nuances rather than open warfare." John Redwood summed up

families, more choice in public services, and a declaration not to join a single currency. Mr Redwood said the party had heard "encouraging words" from ministers on lower taxes, better services and standing up for Britain's interests abroad. "We now need action," The Thatcherite ex-Secre-

tary of State for Wales has proposed a £5bn cut in public spending. Contrasting this to Government plans for a 3 per cent increase next year, he asked: "How many companies and families will enjoy that? Surely any large organisation could get by with a little less."
Edward Leigh, a former minister sacked by Mr Major, told

Freedom Association that the party should stop "wallowing in self-doubt" and return to policies that took power out of the hands of the state.

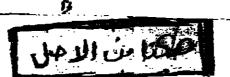
Confirmation for the sceptics that they have won the argu-

return to the platform of Lord Tebbit and a handshake from the Prime Minister. Two years ago, the former party chairman shook the conference with a fierce anti-European Union speech from the floor.

"Don't rock the boat when it is turning to a more sensible course," Lord Tebbit sold a meeting of the Conservative Way Forward group. Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, reaffirmed his own Euro-scepticism from the shared platform but resisted demands for a more right-wing policy on welfare.

From the left of the party, Stephen Dorrell, Secretary of coded rebuke to the radical right. "Revolutionary change disorients people. They become frightened by the unfamiliarity of the landscape and become easy prey for the peddlers of fraudulent certainties." Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, added: "Slightly undue attention is paid to the noisier elements.







ERES IN BEACKPOOL

'Irritated' Major may lose out on Nobel prize

COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister was irritated last night by rumours sweeping the Tory party conference that he may be excluded from the Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded today for bringing peace to Northern Ireland.

Rumours in Washington and Dublin suggested the Nobel panel may have decided to give the award to Albert Reynolds, the former Irish Prime Minister, and John Hume, the leader of the SDLP, excluding John Major and Gerry Adams, the Sian Fein president.

Mr Major is among the nominations with Mr Reynolds and the announcement, due at 11am today, threatens to overshadow the Prime Minister's keynote speech to the conference, which he will be making at the same time.

Aides said last night that he had not been told who had won the \$1m prize but "he is irritated". If he wins the award it could be a remarkable feather in his cap, which could produce a substantial political bonus for the Prime Minister.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew, will seek to push the peace process forward next week in talks with Dick Spring, the Irish Foreign Minister. There are accelerating contacts between the two governments and Sinn Fein leaders in an attempt to overcome the impasse in the peace process.

ful reson

rmy wate

Michael Ancram, the Northern Ireland minister who is acting as a go-between for the parties, had useful talks with Martin McGuinness, the Sinn Pein leader, and is hopeful it will drop opposition to a commission to oversee the decommissioning of IRA weapons.

Sinn Fein is being brought under strong pressure from Washington to agree to the international commission, which will be headed by a respected in the necessary confidence of Northern and come," he said.

US figure. London and Dublin support the idea, and British ministers believe it remains the key to making further progress

key to making further progress towards inclusive all-party talks.

Officials denied a report that there was early prospect of Gerry Adams sitting down with David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, unless there is progress on decommissioning. But Irish sources noted a softening by Sir Patrick on three conditions, including decommissioning IRA arms, set out in Washington for Sinn Fein to take part in all-party talks.

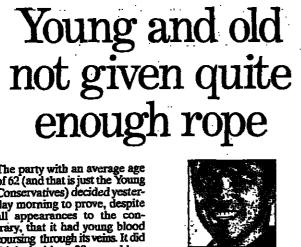
Sir Patrick yesterday told the Tory party conference he was seeking the three conditions, but that was seen as a shift from earlier demands. He outlined the twin-track formula, for the commission and a fresh round of preliminary talks involving all the parties, which was to have been announced at the summit between Mr Major and John Bruton, the Irish premier.

The summit had to be called off by the Irish when Sinn Pein rejected the commission. Sir Patrick made it clear the commission proposal was not dead and a fresh summit could be arranged next month, before President Clinton visits London and Dublin.

If the commission can be accepted, Sinn Fein will quickly move to the bilateral or trilateral talks with the two governments and probably the SDLP.

ments, and, probably, the SDLP.
Sir Patrick said Sinn Fein could only join the all-party talks with the Ulster Unionists after progress on decommissioning. "We have proposed preliminary talks, with all parties able to contribute, to prepare the ground for the later all-party political negotiations.

"But we will not call for such all-party negotiations on the political future of Northern Ireland when we know that, for lack of the necessary confidence, those parties representing most of the people of Northern Ireland will not come "he said



IIM WHITE

faster than any other country he

Europe," he yelped in triumph

The party with an average age of 62 (and that is just the Young Conservatives) decided yesterday morning to prove, despite all appearances to the contrary, that it had young blood coursing through its vems. It did this by inviting a 39-year-old retired athlete and a 34-year-old slap-head to launch its focus on youth. No wonder Seb Coe and William Hague looked embarrassed; just about to face up to mid-life crisis, here were the pair of them expected to act as MCs at the Tory rave.

Coe, the runner who defied Mrs Thatcher to gain his first gold medal at Moscow, said he was going to introduce us to some young Tories whose achievements, he claimed, in their own way were equal to his. Taking a microphone, he patrolled the conference hall picking out youngsters.

ing ont youngsters.

"And what do you do?" he asked them, like a royal on walkabout. "I'm training to be a solicitor," said one. "Well done," he replied. At the risk of sounding unduly cynical, I'm not sure if, as an achievement, going to law school to learn the intricacies of chargeable time opportunities quite matches breaking the world 800 metres record.

The conference clearly agreed. It wasn't youth that got it back on to full throaty, stamping adolescent form. It was the return of old times, old values, old Lady Thatcher. Her Ladyship arrived on stage for the economics debate, her appearance provoking, in parts of the hall, an ovation which shot past the orgasmic. Other parts, however, mainly those housing Leon Brittan, could barely bring themselves to clan.

It was a shrewd move by Kenneth Clarke to invite Lady Thatcher to share his platform. Potentially the least popular speaker of the week, he basked in her reflected glory and shone. Mainly from the upper lip, as it happens, the lights unforgivingly catching the sweat building on his face. The portly Mr Clarke sweated because his deficit grows ever bigger, his stomach breaking the restraints of his double-breasted suit to rest, comfortably, on the lectern. "In the last year we have grown

at one point. And that was just sround the chin.

More old friends appeared in the afternoon: law, order and Norman Tebbit.

The annual Home Affairs

The annual Home Affairs debate is the time that Tory mouths traditionally produce enough foam to keep one of Jack Straw's squeegee merchants' bucket full for a month. But this year, it seemed a more

muted affair: it took 45 minutes

before the first delegate de-

manded the return of capital

Michael Howard – the man who should long ago have been committed for crimes against the letter "L" – started slowly too. His first speech as Home Secretary had included 27 new proposals, but here, for the kind of red-tooked Tory who believes judges are dangerous liberals, there were worrying moments of spineless indecision: waffle about stopping racial attacks, fashionable nonsense about identifying children at risk and helping them. "I today announce," he finally said, to a hall-wide intake of

breath, "the creation of the Crime Prevention Agency".

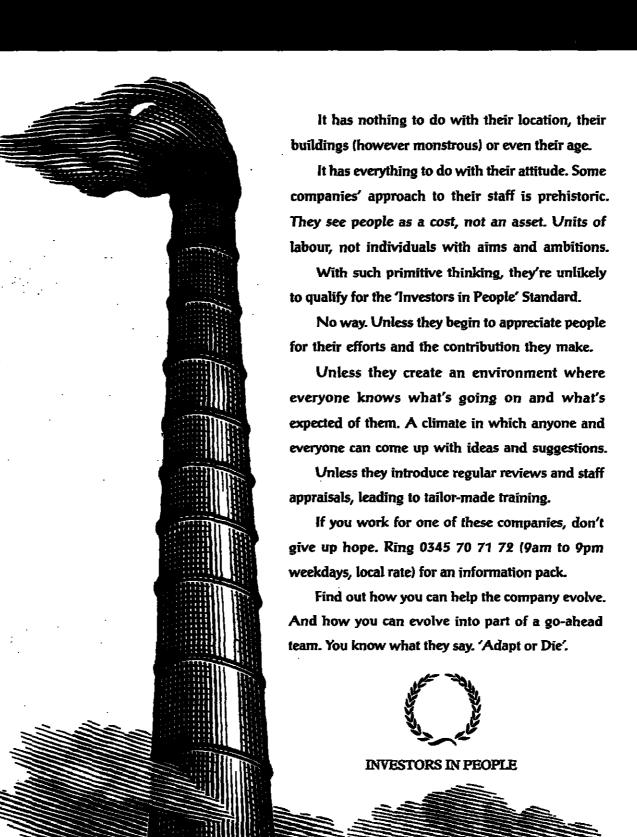
There they were hoping for the

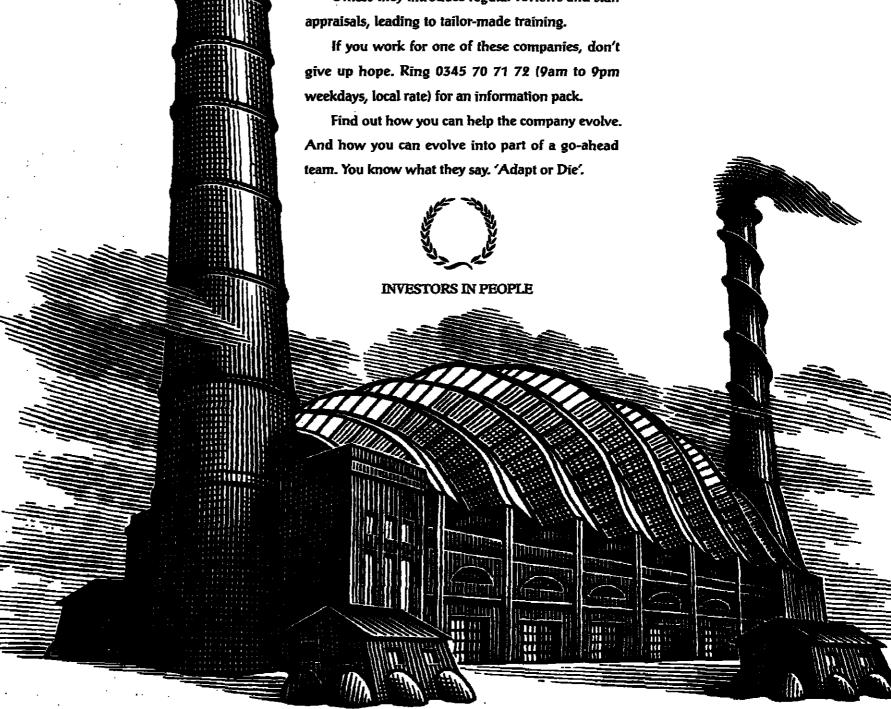
rope, and got a quango.
Fortunately for the length of his ovation, Howard pulled it round at the end, pushing his glasses up on to the bridge of his nose to prove he was about to get tough. A return to honesty in sentencing, he promised: "Five years should mean five years." And "those convicted for the second time of violent crime will get life." Even this announcement was not enough for one delegate, an elderly, white-haired woman who bawled "No, no, string 'em up." Those boisterous young Tories: I blame the



Cue applause: Baroness Thatcher, who is 70 today and will celebrate with a champagne reception at Claridge's, taking her bow on the platform yesterday Photograph: Brian Hams

LET'S FACE IT,
SOME COMPANIES WILL NEVER BECOME
INVESTORS IN PEOPLE.





SIBYOLDER RESULT LEGIO TRIMPOLEVED DAY DARREST BUT OF TRIMPHORD DALES BEZONDED BEARINGED OF A

50000

Premier League matches looms

DAVID HELLIER and MATHEW HORSMAN

A battle for the rights to broadcast Premier League football is looming, as rival hidders line up to wrest control of the sport's top televised matches from the clutches of Sky television.

Although Sky, which is 40 per cent owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, remains the favourite, club owners said yesterday rival bids were in-

'We're starting with a blank sheet of paper and the only thing that will determine the outcome is money," said Fred-die Fletcher, chief executive of Newcastle United.

The Independent has learned that at least three groups sports agency IMG, media com-pany Mirror Group and Orbit, a Rome-based broadcaster owned by Middle Eastern inare among the potential rivals. The groups are expected to form consortia to take on Mr Murdoch.

The arrival of competing bidders to the scene is sure to oush up the price football owners can extract from the winner.

Sky has the edge going into the negotiations. It is coming towards the final stages of a five-year contract—which expires at sports channel. The company, the end of next season - worth £200m, with the Premier League, and it has the right to match any other offer. Only by bidding more than Sky's deep pockets could handle would a

which has its transmission centre outside Rome, is wholly owned by the Mawarid group

The Premier League is also in talks with the Endsleigh

League, which represents the three lower divisions. Its rep-

resentatives met yesterday in

Birmingham to discuss a pro-

posal from the Football Asso-

ciation that would combine

rights to the league, the FA Cup and international matches. The

FA is offering £117m, raised from a planned £250m five-year

deal with Sky, the BBC and ITV

The Premier League is be-

lieved ready to make a counter offer to the Endsleigh League, arguing that by joining forces,

the two leagues could extract a

higher price from broadcasters.

how good a deal the Premier League will extract from Sky. The league suggests a minimum

of £500m for five years and

hones for £800m. Sky scoffs at

such figures, but proffers none

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Dixons Deal

from Saudi Arabia.

"I don't think it's right to talk publicly about the details of the negotiations," Mr Fletcher said. What I can say is that this contract will be worth a heck of a lot more than the last one, and anybody who thinks Sky has it all sewn up just does not know the facts. I will be amazed if there's not enormous interest from broadcasters all over the world," he said.

rival win out.

The emergence of Romebased Orbit appears to prove Mr Fletcher's point. Sources at the company say its eventual aim is to corner the market for pay-TV in Europe and beyond

once regulations are relaxed. Already it runs a digital mul-ti-channel pay-TV service broadcasting news, entertainment films and sports channels to 23 countries in the Middle East and of its own publicly.

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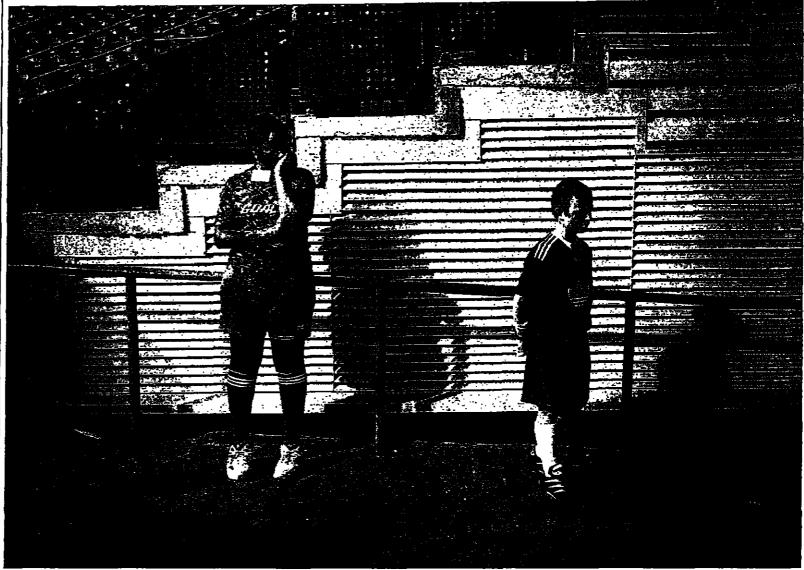
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THERE'S A GREAT DEAL GOING ON

Ford, now a declared bankrupt, of Battle in East Sussex. was struck off by the Law Society in 1993 following an internal investigation by the

The thefis occurred between 1989 and 1992. According to Tim Barnes QC, for the prosecution, Ford had "systematically stolen from clients" accounts" by using interim bills that were fictitious. Although the total amounts of the thefts itemised in the 10 charges totalled about £150,000, Ford's guilty pleas were regarded as specimens of the dishanesty he carried out between 1989 and 1992

Mr Barnes told the court that

Record numbers of female players are fighting it out in a schools' competition

CLARE GARNER

Football's sexual revolution scored another goal yesterday with the launch of a tournament for English schools in which one in four participants will be girls.

A record 20,000 schoolchildren are expected to take good that they have separate part in the indoor five-a-side competition organised by the English Schools' Football As-sociation and around 5,000 of them will be girls. No football tournament in the United Kingdom has ever attracted so many female players.

Of the 159 different schools' associations which have confirmed they will participate, 66 - including Newcastle upon Tyne, Sheffield, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Southampton have also signed up for the girls' competition.

The National Cup, which will be sponsored by Wagon Wheels for the next three years, begins at a local level in Noember and culminates in a national finals at Aston Villa Leisure Centre next April.

Channelle Hutchinson, 11, who plays in goal for North Westminister Community goalkeeper, David Seaman, and the England Ladies striker,

Marieanne Spacey, at Stamford Bridge, west London, to kick off the launch.

"Around 10 girls at school play football but I think this iournament will encourage more to play," said Channelle. a keen Arsenal supporter. "It's sections for boys and girls. I prefer to play against girls be-cause some of the boys are sexist and think 'Oh, she must be weak, she's a girl'. Girls have

retire

more talent anyway."

Dean Stockwell, 11, from the same school as Channelle. told a different story. While he agreed that the tournament would get more girls on to the pitch he was confident that boys would always be better at the sport. "I know girls who want to play all the time. They get on my nerves," he said. "I am not worried that girls will get better than us. I know they

Ms Spacey, 29, welcomed the tournament as a way of climinating prejudices at an early age. "We have had to put up with so many chauvinists over the years who say women shouldn't be playing because it's School's under-12s, yesterday a man's game. I think it's going joined the Arsenal and England to be totally acceptable for girls to take part in this tournament because it is prestigious.

Lawyer admits stealing from clients' funds

IAMES CUSICK

A former solicitor who has so far cost the Law Society compensation fund an estimated £7m after it was discovered that he illegally used clients' money, yesterday admitted 10 charges of theft when he appeared at Maidstone Crown Court in Kent.

Graham Ford's guilty pleas covered responsibility for loss-es not less than £5m. Ford, 52, appeared alongside a former colleague, William Bew, 36, a solicitor who worked in the probate department of the large law firm which Ford headed. Mr Bew, of Circucester, Gloucestershire, denied four charges involving the falsification of information relating to clients' accounts handled by Ford's firm. The law practice, which closed in 1992, once operated 10 offices in London and the South-east with a staff of 152.

Solicitors' Complaints Bureau.

Ford's overall responsibility was



Society £7m compensation

accepted to be a sum of not less than £5m and that the Law Society compensation fund had paid out £7m to cover the losses incurred by his firm. Most of the thefts related to probate work carried on by the firm. The sums described in the 10 counts ranged from only a few thousand pounds to £29,000 for one account.

In September this year, the Law Society issued a writ claiming £8.5m damages from ac-countants KPMG over its work for Ford's firm. The writ claims KPMG, which filed annual accounting reports on the firm, was "negligent and in breach of its duty of care by failing adequately to examine the account books and other records". KPMG said it will be "contest-

ing the writ vigorously".
Ford will be sentenced at the end of Mr Bew's trial, which continues today and is expected to last up to eight weeks.

revolution

Public schools may start drug tests for pupils

DOUL HIDDU Education Editor

Police should not automatically be called when pupils are found smoking cannabis, public school heads said yesterday. They also called on schools to consider drug tests for pupils suspected of taking drugs in a report drawn up for the Head Masters' Conference of top

public school heads in Dublin. Drugs are a growing problem in both state and independent schools. This year pupils have been expelled from schools such as Eton, Millfield, Wellington and Westminster for drugs

Keith Dawson, head of Hab-erdashers' Aske's, Hertfordshire, who led the working party which produced the report, said an isolated incident with cannabis need not necessarily involve the police. "I am not say-ing don't bother about cannabis, but it is a question of a pragmatic response."

Police were often busy with serious drug incidents and might take a less severe view of cannabis smoking than schools. The report says police should

be called to deal with pushers and dealers and if pupils are found taking class-A drugs such as heroin and ecstasy. Schools are free to decide

report treads a difficult path be- or ask for their removal have a tween heads' conflicting views

continuing responsibility for

find them a new school.

them and the heads should

It says: "We are emphatical-

ly not proposing a free market

in pupils who have been ex-pelled for misdemeanours re-lating to drugs. However, in cases where a head feels able to

recommend a pupil in good faith, we believe that colleagues

should be prepared to accept that judgment."

find out what pupils thought

about drugs. He said that this

hitherto had been forbidden ter-

ritory with schools and parents

feating what they might uncover

and pupils afraid of punishment.

Mr Dawson urged schools to

on drug testing.
It poses random testing on moral and legal grounds and says: "Drug testing is not with-out its own problems both of principle and practice. Some day schools believe that to have drug testing in their schools would involve an unacceptable invasion of the private social activities of their pupils, which is essential-

ly a matter for their parents." However, it says pupils' agreement to testing could be used as an alternative to ex-

Richard Barker, head of Sevenoaks School, Kent, has already begun drug testing. He said a pupil was expelled in June for selling cannabis but nine others were allowed to remain on condition that they submitted to

regular testing. He said: "Drugs is a national problem. It is to the credit of independent schools that they are facing it."

Some schools expel all pupils involved in drug cases. But the report warns that this prevents heads making allowances for different degrees of guilt_"It may also encourage defeat and a closing of ranks." Expulsion, it says, should be used only as a last resort.

Schools are free to decide their own drugs policy and the that schools which expel pupils



Jungle fever: Sculptor David Hayes puts the finishing touches to a lifesize Indian Elephant and Bengal Tiger. The work made and entitled 'The Tiger Hunt' will form a centrepiece at the Royal Armouries in Leeds, which is due to open next Easter

WE'VE BEEN INVESTING

OUR PROFITS

IN SOMETHING SAFER

THAN GOLD.

Job stress 'forces head teachers to retire early'

Education Correspondent

Head teachers' jobs are so stressiti that lewer leachers are applying for promotion and the majority of heads are retiring early, according to a survey

published yesterday.

A plan by Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, to train as-piring heads could simply deter even more potential applicants by showing them the grim re-alities of headship before they start, the report's author said last night.

The research showed small rural schools and those in the inner cities to be the worst affected. Many teachers have always been reluctant to work in urban areas, but problems in the countryside have escalated because of budget cuts. In these areas, heads now often face a full teaching schedule plus ad-

ministrative duties. The questionnaire of 200 schools, commissioned by the National Association of Head Teachers from John Howson, of Oxford Brookes University, also showed that for the first time a majority of new ap-



David Hart: Salary levels for heads must be addressed

paign yesterday launched an appeal for 20,000 women to take

part in "probably the most am-

bitious cancer trial ever under-

are needed for a four-year

study of the drug tamoxifen, a

successful preventive treatment

for the disease, which is believed

to be responsible for the recent

fall in the death rate. Up to half

a million women in the United

Kingdom already take the drug,

but the new trial will focus on the benefits - or otherwise - of

long-term treatment. Tamoxifen

has been used since the mid-

1960s, but was only confirmed

as a useful preventative treat-

Women with breast cancer

taken", writes Liz Hunt.

pointments were women. But more men were still recruited in secondary schools, and the chances of a woman being apwere a large number of appli-

Mr Howson found that applications for primary headships had dropped by 20 per cent since 1988, and for deputy headships by 30 per cent. Thirty per cent of outgoing head teachers had retired early compared with just 24 per cent who had left at retirement age. A quarter of those who had retired had done so because of ill health or stress.

Difficulties in recruiting good

quality head teachers were more severe in some areas than others, Mr Howson found. In inner London, more than onethird of posts had to be readvertised in the first seven months of 1995 compared with less than a quarter last year.In Lancashire, which has a large number of small rural schools, the percentage had risen from 17 to 26 per cent in the same period. Head teachers' salaries ranged from less than £25,000 in one small school to more than 45,000 in a large secondary.

Mr Howson said teachers were being put off applying for promotion by budget cuts and redundancies as well as by the extra administrative duties imposed through local manage-

He added: "People don't like being the bearers of bad news, and if they become head they know they may have to tell staff that they can't employ another teacher or that they have to cut a secretary. Whether Mrs Shephard's scheme will encourage people to come forward or discourage them is unclear."

David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, said qualifications would only attract the best potential heads if salary levels and · administrative support in the job were also addressed.

The trial is being funded by

the United Kingdom Co-ordi-

nating Committee for Cancer

Research, comprising the CRC.

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

and the Medical Research

Council. It will run in parallel

with another tamoxifen trial

which began recruiting volun-

teers earlier this yea, and aims

to see if the drug can prevent

breast cancer in healthy women with a family history of the dis-

ease. This earlier trial ran into

ethical problems because of

the risks of giving healthy

women such a potent hormonal drug. The MRC has twice re-

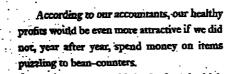
fused to back it but is believed

to be reconsidering its position.

Volunteers sought for

breast cancer trials

The Cancer Research Cam- ment for breast cancer in 1990.



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news

Shankill drives a road to peace across old battlefields



One year on from the loyalist ceasefire, a terrorist turned politician explains why the truce is set to last

DAVID MCKITTRICK

Ireland Correspondent

Twenty years ago Billy Hutchinson, as a young Shankili Road lovalist, believed the best way to deal with republicanism was of an Ulster Volunteer Force gang which shot dead two men on the Falls Road, an action which put him behind bars for 15 years.

Today his view of how to deal with republicans has changed dramatically. "One of the things that would worry me is if people try to screw Sinn Fein," he says now. "I don't think anybody should be trying to do that, I don't think there's anything in it for anybody to screw

In place of the old belligerence and indeed the ferocity for which the loyalist paramilitary groups were known, there is now, according to Mr Hutchinson, a new political way of

looking at things. "We need to convince Sinn

Pein that there is a democrat- alists are united and 100 per ic process and that they can have cent behind the peace. Now I a role in it as a democratic par-

ty. I think we should assist them in every way to come into it fully," he says. Mr Hutchinson, an intense through violence. He was part man now aged 39, is a leading member of the Progressive Unionist Party, which he describes as political confidants

of the illegal UVF. The PUP and the Ulster Democratic Party, which speaks for the il-legal Ulster Defence Association, have made a considerable impact since the loyalist ceasefire, surprising and heartening many that such moderate messages should come from such an unexpected quarter. . . .

The past year has seen many contacts with government, with Mr Hutchinson leading PUP delegations on 15 occasions to meet senior civil servants and

One of the main points in these discussions has been the decommissioning of paramilitary weaponry, the issue on which the Government and Sinn Fein have been deadlocked for many months. The loyalist view, as set out by Billy Hutchinson, is actually not far from that of the repub-

"For me it's whether the guns are being used or not being used that is the most important thing," he says. "If people can guarantee that they're not going to be used then I wouldn't be very con-cerned. If the Sinn Fein position is that it should never happen then I think there's something wrong with that, but I don't think decommissioning should be a pre-condition for talks.

"In our discussions with the Government we talked about the ways in which weapons could be decommissioned. For example, there could be some sort of agreement that people transporting guns would not be

"We talked about whether people would drive them to years. police stations, or dig up caches then leave them at a certain place and inform the police. We talked about whether the people that handed them over might be forensically connected to the guns. Those were the sort of things that were thrown up for discussion, but no answers were ever given."

Mr Hutchinson believes it has been a good year for his movement, though he is disappointed that all-party talks have not been convened, that prisoners have not been released and

wouldn't say there is not an appetite for war among some individuals - it would be wrong to say everybody's on board for

"But those people will abide by what the leadership say. The analysis we gave over a year ago was the correct one, that there was no sell-out. The acid test will come when we actually move into all-party talks and we start talking about settlements. I think that's when people will start to get jittery, whenever the questions start coming up about organisations being disbanded and so on. But that's way down the road."

In the meantime, he is involved not just in a peace process but in a learning process. During the past year. he and his colleagues have met dozens of people from all over the world, ranging from American senators to South

African academics.
He says: "We're still learning how to put ourselves in someone eise's shoes and see it from their point of view, whether they're the British government or Šinn Fein.

"I've been particularly sur-prised how the mainstream Unionist politicians have reacted to us - they treat us as non-people, they don't under-stand where we, or indeed the

republicans, are coming from.
"When David Trimble was elected (as leader of the Ulster Unionist Party], my first reac-tion was shock-horror, but in fact, like us, he's meeting a wide range of people and up to now he hasn't put a foot

And so to the key question: how strong is the peace? "It's as strong as the republicans and loyalists want it to be. I believe there is a feeling within the re-publican and loyalist leaderships that they don't want to put their people through any more of the trauma of the last 25

"The worrying thing for me is that both are ready for war and for peace. At the moment we're all in peace mode but we shouldn't be under any illusions - people can go back to war whenever they want, they've got the capabilities.

"I want to make sure that they don't. We're still waiting for the peace process and the political process to merge together, and for real talks to start. Once that happens then I think we're on our way.

"But we need to sit down and the parties and with those who represent the people who carthat the leaders of loyalist para- ried out the violence for the last militarism have no intention of 25 years. That's the only time going back to war: "One thing that the peace will be signed,

I'm confident of is that the loy- sealed and delivered. IRA not alone in stockpiling illegal weapons

In the long-running dispute be-tween the Government and Sinn Fein over decommissioning paramilitary weapons, it is often overlooked that the IRA element hungry for negotiais not the only illegal organisation with illicit stocks of arms.

The extreme Protestant groups have hundreds of guns which they used, in the two years before the ceasefires, to kill more people than did the IRA. One reason why the loyalist guns are rarely highlighted is that they have, as Billy Hutchinson illustrates, embraced the peace process with such unexpected and evidently genuine

After years of relying on the power of the gun, the loyalists have developed a curious empathy with the republicans: they know where they are coming from, they know how difficult it is to make peace, and they know the heavy price which all

would pay in going back to war. The striking difference between loyalists and republicans is the apparent lack of strains and pressures within the extreme Protestant underworld. Within Sinn Fein and the IRA. there are signs that many in the republican grassroots have become frustrated and dissatisfied with the pace and direction of the peace process.

On the loyalist side, however, there is no real sign of any real pressure for a return to war. But that is not to say that paramil-itarism is dwindling: the UVF and UDA are still out there, carrying out punishment beatings and showing no sign of de-commissioning their weapons. The question of who killed eading loyalist William Elliott earlier this month remains unanswered. The transformation of what was the most militant part of loyalism into an

tion, which is prepared to compromise, is only part of the wider Unionist scene. The recent election of David Trimble, a bardliner, as leader of the main Ulster Unionist party shows that some sections of Protestant opinion are on the move towards a tougher line.

It seems unlikely that parties such as the Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and UDP will make a spectacular electoral dent in Mr Trimble's party. Old voting patterns are notori-ously difficult to change in Northern Ireland, and many Unionists will consider the new parties too working-class, too left-leaning and too close to the paramilitants. These parties are therefore probably destined to remain on the fringe.

But the fact that the kyalist paramilitaries have embraced politics with such relish is already having an effect. In the past, many Unionist politicians were able to point over their shoulders at the violent Protestant groups and cite them as evidence of how hardline their grassroots were.

Now the old patterns are changing: the paramilitary groups are no longer willing to provide the muscle for politicians to use. This means the politicians will be compelled to rely less on threats and more on straightforward politics.

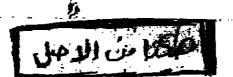
The fact that they will henceforth have to depend on force of argument, rather than the argument of force, is changing the face of Unionist politics.

DAVID MCKITTRICK



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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE DE OTHER LEAN SECURED ON IT



Police want law laid down in plain English

Crime Correspondent

Police chiefs want much of the country's criminal law - some of which they believe is "legal gobbledegook" - to be rewrit-ten into plain English They believe that vague and confusingly written laws have led to wrong judgments and made

the legal system maccessible. Chief constables are to press the Government to introduce changes to the wording of the laws, many of which are more than 100 years-old, in England and Wales and introduce a new,

single criminal code.
John Hoddinott, president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said: "The law ought to be for citizens, it should be accessible and easy to understand. [For example] you can't understand the law on assaulting people even in half an hour. We are talking about punching people, cutting them, or breaking their arm, but you would not understand that from reading the Offences Against the Person Act 1861. Even judges are

example of "legal gobblede-gook". Under the Act the defnition of wounding or causing grievous bodily harm with intent "whosoever shall unlawfully and maliciously by any means whatsoever wound or cause any grievous bodily harm to any person with intent to do some

Under the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 an assault is committed "when the defendant intentionally or recklessly causes his victim to apprehend the immediate infliction of unlawful force"...

grievous bodily harm to any person, or with intent to resist or prevent the lawful apprehension

or detainer of any person". The police want the Act reformed - a measure proposed by the Law Commisbody, in 1992, but not carried out. The police say gradual rewriting of criminal law should eventually lead to a criminal code or a single plain English.

The Association of Chief Po-He added that it was a good lice Officers argues that "it

should be possible to agree plain English charges that are comprehensible to police officer, suspect, victim and citizen". The recommendation to sim-

phify legal language was one of a package of criminal justice asures that the association will be campaigning for in the ming year.

An agenda paper, In Search of Criminal Justice, published yesterday at its autumn conference in Coventry, also calls for greater use of video evidence in court, changes in the law to allow previous convictions and hearsay evidence to be admitted in court under certain circumstances, legislation on disclosure of evidence and binding pre-trial reviews, cutting down on the administrative work in courts and providing better treatment of victims and witnesses.

Civil rights lawyers are concerned about some of these proposed changes, particularly allowing the prosecution to dis close less evidence to the defence who will have to reveal more before the trial. They believe this will swing the legal system too far in favour of the police and prosecution.



Ghostly triumph booked in for perpetuity

First Night: 'The Phantom of the Opera'; Musical Theater Messe, Basel

DAVID LISTER

Both the show and the business elements of showbusiness were played out here yesterday as Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's artistic colonisation of Europe moved on to a new plane.

Indeed, the plane was one of the more remarkable elements. A Crossair Saab 2000 aeroplane had its fuselage painted with the Phantom of the Opera logo and mask, dwarfing the Swiss flag. As it took off from Heathrow yesterday, the climax to the title track played through the cabin. The official carrier for the show in Basel, it will bring people from cities all over Europe with Phantom ticket hot

glass 1500-seat theatre that Basle businessmen and city fathers built solely to hand to Sir Andrew's Really Useful Group to boost the economy of the city. Sir Andrew's team will run the theatre and probably stage the Phantom of the Opera in perpetuity. Should that show ever close, he has an "on-going programming option" to replace it. But it won't be closing for a while. Before last night's Swiss première, his staff said they had sold £10m of advance tickets.

businessmen coughed up. The show part of showbusiness began earlier with a press the composer faced a bewildering mixture of lavish tributes

And they didn't even have to

pay for the £150,000 banquet

after the show. Basel's grateful

Andrew: 'Phantom' story was 'load of hokum'

First, Herr Uli Vischer, vicepresident of Basle city government, said that Basel shared certain qualities with Britain inthen continued: "With all probability, Basle is honoured today

by the most distinguished visit from the United Kingdom since Her Majesty the Queen was greeted here 15 years ago ... Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber is the man who inspires, promotes and enlivens with his genius again

you say to a Swiss newspaper which calls your music a patchwork of other composers?" "I say rubbish," replied Sir

But, he was asked, what do

And what do you say to claims that you are the Mozart of today, asked another. "I say rubbish," replied Sir Andrew again.

Then the normally shy composer began to discourse unusually freely. Asked if he would write with Sir Tim Rice again, Disney, and I don't think we're

He tried to deter questions about profits from the show which go to the Really Useful Group - saying he was merely a shareholder in the group. The holding was 70 per cent. And he told how Phantom

began. He bought a book of it for 50 cents at a New York bookstall, thought the story "a load of hokum" and handed it to the director, Hal Prince, who wanted to direct a romantic musical. When they did collaborate on it, Sir Andrew said yesterday, "There was a lot of love in it for me. I wrote the role of Christine for my then wife Sarah Brightman and a lot of

passion went into it." The show, performed in German with Hal Prince again directing, looked and sounded splendid. In December Sir Anhe damned with conspicuously splendid. In December Sir An-faint praise: "I don't think it's drew takes over a new theatre passionate one-man export dri-

Right to silence plea fails

Home Affairs Correspondent

Attempts by defence lawyers to limit the effects of new legislation that erodes the centuriesold "right to silence" were rejected by the Court of Appeal In a test case judgment that

will be welcomed by the Government as support for its tough stance on law and order, Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, convince the judges in the cassaid he was not prepared to "drive a coach and horses" through the provisions of the Lord Taylor rejected the argu-1994 Criminal Justice and Pub-ment that the burden of proof

in court can no longer rely on a once-enshrined right that no adverse inferences must be drawn from their silence. The legislation has been condemned by lawyers and human rights groups who claim it distorts the principle of "innocent until proven guilty" and who intend to challenge it through the Eu-

But that argument failed to es of three people convicted after they chose to remain silent.

lice questions or give evidence been abolished, he said. No one could be forced to give evidence and no one could be convicted solely because of their silence. The prosecution still had to establish a prima facie case, guilt

still had to be proved beyond reasonable doubt, and inferences to be drawn from a defendant's silence were just one factor in the case. Further, a court could refuse to draw adverse inferences if the circumstances of the case justified it. In two of the cases, however, the judges quashed the convictions because the trial judges, dealing with unfamiliar legisla-

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Fighting mars start of Bosnia ceasefire

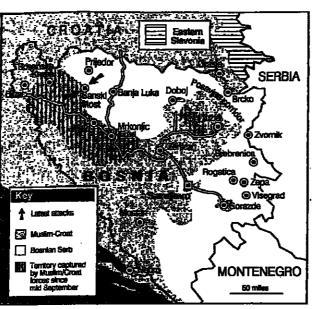
CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

All was quiet on most of the 600 miles of Bosnian battle front yesterday after three-and-ahalf years of fighting. But the ceasefire, which came into force at one minute past midnight, was ignored in Sanski Most, which the Bosnian govern-ment's Fifth Corps claimed to have captured on Tuesday, and where serious fighting was still reported last night.

Sanski Most marks the high tide of the Muslim advance towards the key Serb-held city of Banja Luka, and it is not sur-prising that the struggle has con-tinued, although street fighting is unusual in Bosnia. "There is definitely no ceasefire there," one witness reported after returning to the government-held town of Bihac.

The government in Sarajevo accused the Serbs of making a further push, and President Al-ija Izetbegovic warned that the continued fighting threatened have to respond to [the attack] if it does not stop." He added, however, that he was still optimistic peace would be achieved.

A few other ceasefire violations were reported, but the UN considered them insignificant. Although everyone who knows the Bosnian conflict was cau- clave of Gorazde was halted by tious yesterday, there was mines and had to turn back.



Normally there are about

500 firing incidents a day, with

perhaps 300 involving heavy weapons. Yesterday the UN reported fewer than 20. "It's

definitely holding," a UN spokesman in Zagreb said. "It's

far better than I anticipated, ex-pected, hoped". Lieutenant Colonel Chris Vernon, a UN

spokesman in Sarajevo, said it was militarily impossible to halt

entirely the fighting after the few hours' notice which local com-

manders had received.

optimism that the ceasefire, which had been delayed 48 hours, would hold. "Something tells me this one could last," said the French Foreign Minister, Herve de Charette.

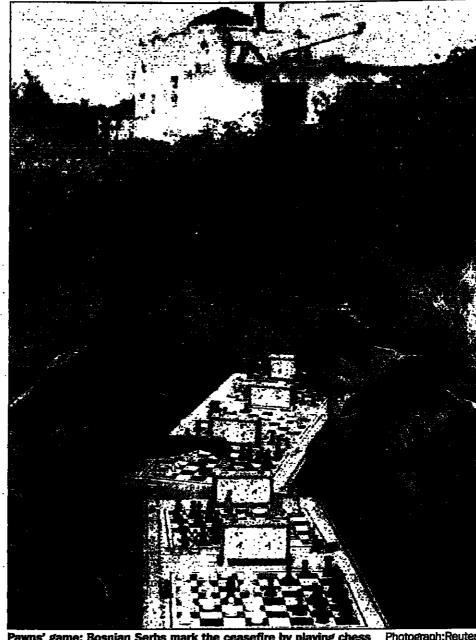
Reported violations were mostly in the north-east, around Tuzla and the Posavina corridor, which links the two main Serbheld areas, and around Sarajevo. A UN convoy heading from Sarajevo to the Muslim en-

tended Muslim and Croat forces claimed to have captured Sanski Most and Mrkonjic Grad in a last-minute scramble for bargaining counters, an attack bitterly opposed by war-weary Bosnian Serbs. Mirkonjic Grad was the last objective on the key road which runs along most of the new Bosnian government front line. But exhaustion among the troops, and the feeling that it was no longer worth dying, ap-peared to reinforce orders from above to stop fighting. The UN accused the Bosnian Serbs of "the worst kind of eth-

On Wednesday the over-ex-

nic cleansing" in the days before the ceasefire. A spokesman, Joe Sills, said about 6,000 non-Serbs, mostly Muslims, had been forced out of the area around Banja Luka, scene of some of the worst "ethnic cleansing" during the earlier part of the war.

The five nation contact group - the US, Russia, Britain, France and Germany - is due to meet in Moscow next Tuesday. Full peace talks between the warring factions are due to begin in the US around the end of the month, but the Bosnian government warned it would boycott them unless other conditions were met. These included opening up the road to the Gorazde enclave, and opening a road out of Sarajevo.



Italian minister

The French anti-corruption magistrate Renaud van Ruym-beke once admitted that his ambition was to nail a government minister; conversely, it seems that the lifetime ambition of the Italian minister, Filippo Mancuso, is to nail an anti-corruption magistrate.

Ever since Mr Mancuso, a career jurist and former appeals court prosecutor, was appointed Justice Minister last January, he has been single-minded in his attempts to discredit the "clean hands" magistrates in Milan, whose investigations led to the collapse of the old political order two years ago.

Mr Mancuso, 74, belongs to the old school of magistrates who never challenged the system and never dared turn themselves into public personalities. He seems to be waging a vendetta against the new generation of judicial movers and shakers, bent on revolutionising Italian society.

Mr Mancuso went into even higher gear this week, opening new investigations into two of the Milan magistrates, Gherardo Colombo and Paolo Ielo. dislike the Milan magistrates. I 23 per cent.

He has refused to resign, despite several no-confidence motions proposed by parliament. Soon after his appointment

Mr Mancuso sent ministry inspectors to investigate whether the Milan magistrates had abused their office in their attempts to indict the former prime minister, Silvio Berlusconi. This caused a furore; when Mr Berlusconi's own justice minister, Alfredo Biondi, tried to do the same thing in July 1994, he was forced to backtrack.

Mr Mancuso's inspectors failed to turn up any dirt, so he fired them (later reinstating all but two under pressure from colleagues and public opinion). That was not the end of the story. Feeling abandoned by his Prime Minister, Lamberto Dini, he described Mr Dini as "servile" to the political forces

supporting his government. Under Italy's constitution, the only way to get rid of an irritating minister is for the whole government to resign. Mr Dini plans to do just that when his emporary mandate runs out in the next few weeks. Mr Mancusò has only one friend left in the world, Mr Berlusconi, who has his own reasons to

Austrian coalition fails to last year

Central Europe Correspondent

After less than one year in office, Austria's ruling coalition split apart yesterday plunging the country into an early general election which could transform its political landscape.
The split between the gov-

erning Socialist (SPO) and Peo-ple's (OVP) parties followed the collapse of attempts to bridge their differences over how to reduce a spiralling budget deficit. The SPO wanted most of a Sch50bn (£3.8bn) reduction to be achieved through higher taxes. The more conservative OVP wanted cuts in Austria's generous welfare pay-

ments and state subsidics.

According to Wolfgang
Schüssel, the OVP leader, the dispute reflected a "fundamental battle over [the] direction" of the country. Chancellor franz Vranitzky, the SPO leader, believed the differences were reconcilable and accused his OVP counterpart of a "flight from responsibility" by precipitating fresh elections, now due on 17 December.

Certainly much of the pressure for yesterday's move came

from the ambitious Mr Schüssel, who only took over the leadership of his party in April. With the OVP riding high in the opinion polls, he undoubtedly sees a chance for his party to overtake the SPO as the country's dominant political force and for nimself to replace Mr Vranitzky

as chancellor.

But Mr Schüssel's gamble could backfire and lead to a further surge of support for Jörg Haider, the populist leader of the far-right Freedom Party (FPO), whose declared aim is to smash the post-war grip on power enjoyed by Austria's two main parties. "The collapse of the coalition after less than one year is a clear signal that the system has ceased to work satisfactorily," said Klaus Faupel, a professor of political science at Salzburg university. "Many traditional supporters of the mainstream parties may look elsewhere: it could well play into Haider's hands."

The SPO and OVP have ruled Austria, either singly or together, since the Second World War. In addition to political power, they have devised an elaborate system of patronage - dividing jobs and even flats along party lines. Over the past 10 years both parties have seen a steady erosion of their support as a disenchanted electorate has turned increasingly to the populist, xenophobic Mr Haider or, on the left, to the Green party.

In last October's general election the SPO's share of the vote sank to just 35 per cent while the OVP scored 28 per cent. Mr Haider, who took over as leader of the FPO in 1986 when it was standing at about 5 per cent, celebrated another triumph: a record

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motives hounds judges 'unclear' ANDREW GUMBEL TONY BARBER

Ten days after President Kiro Gligorov of Macedonia was almost killed by a car bomb in Skopje, government officials and police investigators are un-certain if the assassination attempt was related to Balkan politics or organised crime. No group or individual has claimed responsibility, no arrests have been made, and all the Macedonian authorities are saying is

squad from abroad. "The way the assassination attempt was carried out points to an international terrorist organisation, but for the moment we are not announcing anything," the deputy interior minister, Dime Gjurev, said on

that the attack bore the marks

of a professional killer or hit

Bomber's

Europe Editor

However, the authorities have released a description of the man who bought the Citroën that exploded in Skopje ou 3 October, causing serious eye and head injuries to Mr Gligorov, 78, and killing his driver as they passed by in the president's car. He is said to be blond, 5ft 7ins tall, and aged about 30.

This man bought the Citroen in Skopje on 24 September for 650 German marks (£290), according to the newspaper Nova Makedonija. It said he spoke a Serbo-Croat dialect common to a region of northern Croatia. Immediately after the at-tack, some Balkan experts pointed the finger of guilt at Macedonian nationalists op-posed to Mr Gligorov's recent concessions to Greece on the flag and constitution of his young state. Mr Gligorov had further annoyed the nationalist

opposition by seeking better relations with Serbia. The main group opposed to Mr Gligorov's policies has been the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation (VMRO), a party with a rich tradition of political violence earlier in this century. However, VMRO's leadership has rigorously denied involvement. Some argue the would-be killers are more likely to be connected with gangs involved in the burgeoning drug trade and mon-ey-laundering in Macedonia.

Athens — The Greek Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreou who founded the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) 20 years ago and has ruled it with an iron fist ever since, faced renewed calls yesterday for his res-

Several Pasok MPs brushed aside his warnings on Wednes-day that he would no longer tolerate dissenting voices, and continued to demand that the 76-year-old leader step down. "[Mr Papandreou] has com-pleted his contribution, and he must step aside," a former min-ister, Dimitris Tsovolas, told a

rally after resigning from Pasok.

He stopped short of announcing the formation of a new party but told the rally, attended by six Socialist deputies, the time had come for justice.

Mr Papandreou's speech to the Pasok central committee on Wednesday blamed rebels for hurting the government's image as opinion polls showed the party's popularity sliding. "A small clique of high-level party mem-bers is becoming a circle of selfdestruction ... Cowardice and ingratitude will no longer be tol-

He dared rebels to set up their own party and take their case to the electorate, but did not expel them from Pasok, as he has done with dissenters in the past. "The picture was sad. The once-indisputable leader just read a prepared speech and left," said the liberal daily newspaper Eleftherotypia.
The dissenters, rallying

rated," he said.

around prominent members known as the "Gang of Four", accuse Mr Papandreou of losing touch with reality and let-ting his "count" rule the country.

Criticism has focused on his wife, Dimitra Liani, 40, who was appointed in 1993 as his chiefof-staff, giving her power over his daily agenda and his office.

Among those concerned about the party's future and ea-ger to fill Mr Papandreou's shoes are an ex-industry minister, Costas Simitis, a former European Commissioner, Vasso Papandreou, and a former European affairs minister, Theodoros Pangalos. They have openly called on him to take on a less prominent role and open the door to his succession.

Mr Papandreou, who staged a political comeback when he returned to office in 1993, said he had no intention of being a figurehead prime minister, and vowed to use the two remaining years of his term to push his programme through. But Mr Simitis said: "Papandreou has chosen to deny reality."

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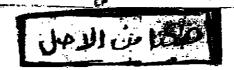


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Spacemen

trapped by

rocketing

prices

It will be one of those awkward long-distance telephone phone calls that requires a certain degree of managerial skill: "Look,

we know you will have been up there, orbiting around the earth

on your own for four months. But you know what the budget's like. You are just going to have to stay there for a bit."

The Russian controllers of the Mir Space station have yet

to inform their three cosmo-

nauts that they may well have

to spend another 39 days float-

ing around in space, allegedly

because of difficulty over cash.

Officials said yesterday that funding problems have delayed

the construction of a hooster

rocket which would have carried

a replacement crew to the sta-

tion, allowing Thomas Reiter,

a German, and Russians Yuri

Gidzenko and Alexander Avdeyev to return to earth

PHIL REEVES

Calif

Ukraine near deal to close Chernobyl

Kiev has lowered the price the West must pay to shut down its deadly reactor, reports Phil Reeves

Moscow - After weeks of Russia's lack of safety stanwrangling over money, the Ukraine and the West last night were inching towards an agreement over the terms by which Chernobyl, scene of the worst nuclear accident in history, will finally be shut down by the end of the decade.

Following talks with officials from the Group of Seven industrialised countries, the Ukrainians indicated they had relaxed a demand for \$4bn (£2.53bn) as a condition for closing Chernobyl's two remaining reactors, although they made clear that they still expected a large sum in Western aid.

If the talks finally produce a settlement, there will be widespread relief among governments across Europe, although it will do nothing to ease the anxiety about the hazards posed by the entire nuclear sector in Russia and its former satellites - concerns ranging from theft of components for weapons, to the risk of a radiation leak from ill-supervised, under-funded and decrepit installations.

This week the environmengroup, Greenpeace, launched a scathing attack on

dards, distributing government documents which showed that last year Gosatomnadzor, the nation's nuclear safety inspectorate, found 38,599 safety violations at nuclear sites, but only took legal action in 13 cases. The inspectorate had also conducted safety tests on more than 17,500 nuclear-related

workers; almost 1,300 failed.

These statistics add weight to the alarming findings of the "Most Dangerous Reactors" project, a group of experts con-vened by the US Department of Energy to alert policy-makers about the dangers of foreign nuclear power plants. In a recent report, following a review of nine Soviet-designed reactors, they described a catalogue of problems including deficiencies in design, weak and incompe-tent national regulatory bodies,

and under-funding. The American researchers provisionally named the four most dangerous plants as Chernobyl, Kozloduy in Bulgaria, Kola in north-western Russia and Ignalina in Lithuania. Using a complex formula to assess the likelihood of an accident, all

four plants received a "D" grade on a scale from A (representing low risk) to F (high risk). Extracts from their conclusions make sobering reading. Ignalina, Lithuania: "Conditions that are deemed so important in the West for preventing accidents - like a conservative 'forgiving' plant design, adequate funds and strong regulatory oversight - are simply absent at Ignalina," says

the report. The nuclear power station, which provides 80 per cent of the ex-Soviet republic's electricity, became the responsibility of Lithuania's nuclear safety inspectorate, Vatesi, when it declared independence in 1991. Vatesi is years away from be ing a recognised authority with a strong scientific base," it says.

The report's authors were scathing about the plant's general safety systems and shoddy construction, but express even greater concern over the risk of the reactor cavity being overpressurised. This "could result in an uncooled core being directly exposed to the atmosphere with no barriers to prevent the release of ra-



After the event: The Chernobyl disaster turned out to be the worst nuclear accident in history

shown at Chernobyl.

"A major radiation release could affect the health of tens of thousands of people in the re-gion, with secondary fall-out occurring in any number of nearby countries, like Poland, Latvia. Russia or Sweden." Like Chernobyl, the plant uses boiling-water, pressure-tube RBMK reactors - the kind "generally considered the least safe by Western safety experts". Some 200,000 people live within a 30-mile radius of Ignalina. Kozioduy, northern Bulgar-

ia: Operating this power plant on the Romanian border is a "truly high stakes gamble". The report cites serious design faults, a dangerously undersized emergency core-cooling system, inadequate containment and "a legacy of poor safe-

When international inspectors ordered its first generation water-cooled reactors to be shut down four years ago, the Bulgarians obeyed. But they restarted them a year later, "without correcting a number of design deficiencies". One of its reactors is currently closed for safety checks, but another was recently restarted by the Bulgarian government, which claims that it cannot do without

the power as the winter approaches. Some 150,000 people live within a 30-mile radius. Kola, north-western Russia: Kola is the primary cause of a threefold increase in the number of incidents at Russia's old Soviet-style VVER-440 reactors in recent years, says the report. About once a year, Kola has a near-accident. "Poor employee morale is increasing chances of human error and sabotage."

after 130 days. So, plans are under discussion to extend the mission of the men up there since the beginning of September - by more than six weeks. It is unclear how the crew will take it, but the Russian Space Agency yesterday was looking on the bright side. "They will have enough food, water and air, since the

Progress cargo ship that docked with the Mir (on Wednesday) brought more than enough supplies," said Anatoly Tkachev, after explaining that the construction of a Progress booster for the Soyuz-22 spacecraft is taking longer than planned because the production plant lacks funding.

"We are going to tell them quite soon, and I am sure they will be pleased about it - all cosmonauts, like pilots, like to fly," he said. "They are all in good physical shape, especially Reiter, and they'll have time for more research."

The new Soyuz rocket, which will put up a Soyuz TM-23 cap-sule carrying relief cosmonauts, Yuri Onufriyenko and Yuri Usachev, will now not be ready until 21 February.

The mission, part of the international effort Europeace '95, consists of biological, geophysical and technological ex-periments. Mr Reiter is going to take a spacewalk on 20 October 20, to install equipment outside the Mir. He will have time, by the sounds of it, for quite a long and leisurely stroll.

IN BRIEF

Graf's 'special tax deal' to be probed

Bonn — German politicians decided to launch a special inquiry into allegations that the tennis star Steffi Graf was given too much special treatment by her regional tax authorities. The parliament of Baden-Württemberg state, where Graf's tax affairs are being investigated, voted for the investigation.

Graf's father, Peter, was jailed in August to prevent him flee-

ing or concealing evidence to support accusations that he and his daughter evaded millions of marks in tax. The Grafs says they struck a deal with the state's tax authorities in 1993, agreeing on

Chirac visits dead bomb suspect's home

Vaulx-en-Velin, France — President Jacques Chirac held talks in the home town of Khaled Kelkal, an Algerian-born suspect in a string of bombings who was shot dead by police. Mr Chirac met community leaders and activists. Kelkal, was gunned down by paramilitary gendarmes as he tried to escape a police dragnet two

Russians drop case against puppet show

Moscow - Russian legal authorities said they had halted criminal proceedings against the satirical "Kukly" puppet show. The acting Prosecutor-General Oleg Gaydanov said the case initiated by his predecessor, Aleksei Ilyushenko, who was sacked on Sunday, had been dropped but gave no details. In a case launched last July, "Kukly" was accused of denigrating President Boris Yeltsin and senior government officials.

False prophet?

London — Husain Rashid Hassan (left), said to be a former confidant of President Saddam Hussein, surfaced in London, wearing a false beard and moustache, and urged lragis to rise against up their leader. But Mr Hassan, refused to reveal basic details about his recent history, thus making it difficult to verify any of his



French fishermen fire on Spanish trawler

Paris — French fishermen fired on a Spanish trawler they claimed was trying to destroy their drift nets, wounding two Spanish crew members. The incident, reminiscent of last year's "fishing wars", took place on Wednesday in the Gulf of Gascogne. The clash between the crews of the Spanish Manuel Herrera and the French Cruzy Horse occurred as both vessels were fishing for white tuna.
"It's not a war, but there is a group of guys making life impossible for us," one Spaniard said.

AP

Earthquake shakes Mexican capital

Mexico City - An earthquake measuring 6.1 on the open-ended Richter scale shook Mexico City but there were no immediate reports of deaths or damage. The National University's earthquake centre said the tremor's epicentre was in

Iraqi cover-up for 'criminal' George Bush

Baghdad - A mosaic portrait of George Bush has been covered with a carpet, protecting it from people checking into Baghdad's Al-Rasheed Hotel. Three days before a referendum confirming Saddam Hussein's position as president of Iraq, workers covered the portrait of the former US president, which is captioned "George Bush is a Criminal". It has graced the hotel's threshold since soon after a stray cruise missile hit the hotel in 1993.

Turkey puts Reuters journalist on trial they saw as anti-Turkish bias in

HUGH POPE Istanbul

Turkey's security apparatus formally targeted a foreign correspondent for the first time yesterday putting an American reporter for Reuters news agency in the dock for breaching one of the country's many laws limiting freedom of expression. A mixture of official polite-

ness, the threat of a three-year jail sentence and trays of black tea in between times made the opening day of the trial a very Turkish affair. "Now, my girl," was the first question from the chief judge on the bench of the State Security Court, "how old

Defence Correspondent

France has decided to proceed

with a long-range, air-launched

cruise missile with a nuclear

warhead, and to scrap missiles

based in ageing silos in south-east France, according to reli-

able sources in Paris. The

French Defence Ministry and

President Jacques Chirac's of-

fice yesterday said no final de-

cision had been made but

newsletter TTU (Très. Très Ur-

gent) said President Chirac had

accepted recommendations

from government defence ex-

perts to proceed with the new

missile and close down siles in the Plateau d'Albion. Instead,

the French deterrent, or Force de Frappe, will rely on air- and submarine-launched missiles

and nuclear bombs carried on Mirage and Super Etendard air-

craft. The recent French tests in

the Pacific have been designed

to test the warhead for a new

submarine-launched missile,

called the SN-75, and to enable

France to evaluate future war-

heads - including that for the

new cruise missile - using com-

The cruise missile, known as

the Air-Sol de Longue Portée

(ASLP) - long-range air to

ground - will enable France's

puter simulation.

indicated it was imminent. The authoritative defence

are you?" As he and everybody else in court knew, Aliza Marcus is a 33-year-old from New Jersey living in Istanbul. What nobody understands is what Turkey hopes to gain from launching a political trial against her and by extension her London-based employers.

Ms Marcus is charged with "inciting racial hatred" in a report last November about the burning and forcible evacuation of Kurdish villages. Its content differed little from Turkish and international reports on the widespread clearances, aimed at cutting Kurdish guerrillas off from food and recruits. But the Turkish nationalist old guard struck back, choosing a differ-

Rafale fighter bombers to hit

targets from up to 900km, en-

abling them to stay out of range

A joint Anglo-French ASLP was one option considered by the British Ministry of Defence

of most anti-aircraft defences

to meet its requirement for a

Tactical Air-to-Surface Missile

or TASM, to replace its free-fall WE-177 nuclear bombs, until

the idea was scrapped in 1993.

decided to concentrate on one

nuclear system, the submarine-launched Trident missile.

From about 2006, Trident will

provide Britain's only nuclear

Plateau d'Albion are SSBS S3s.

introduced in 1980, with a range of 3,500km. They are housed in ageing silos which look in-

creasingly vulnerable in view of the growing threat from missiles fired from North Africa.

Britain and France, the only

Western European nuclear

powers, exchange information

on nuclear strategy but have not

yet co-operated on nuclear war-

head design. Following the re-

sumption of French nuclear

tests in the South Pacific there

have been allegations that Britain has received data from

the French tests, but the Foreign

Office yesterday said no direct

data had been received and

none had been requested.

The 18 French missiles in the

Instead, the British have

Chirac overhauls

missile arsenal

ent punishment from Turkey's only charged eight months latoccasional expulsions of "hostile" reporters. "She was asking for it, she wanted to be a hero. Well, she got her trial," said one senior Turkish official.

Given that Turkey's President Suleyman Demirel is due to visit Washington next week, and that the European Parliament may hold up a vital customs that she is not being held in de-union deal until it sees better tention, as are more than 170 Turkish human rights, most ob- Turks convicted for what they servers had assumed that the case would be quietly dropped. But the judges deliberately missed an obvious chance. Ac-

cording to Turkish press law, charges must be laid within six months. Ms Marcus wrote the article 11 months ago, but was

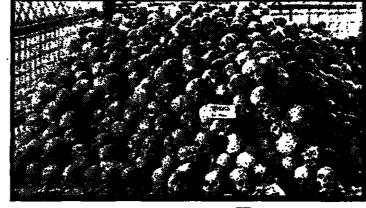
er, in July. This defence argument was rejected on a dubious technicality. "Such technical matters mean nothing. This is a political trial, like most trials in the state security courts," said a senior figure in Turkey's New

Democracy Party. Ms Marcus can be grateful have written or said. Although she pulled no punches in her reporting on the 11-year-old Kurdish war, Turkey's real target may be Reuters itself.

Two Turkish newspapers have in recent months taken the unusual step of criticising what

the agency, the world's principal source of news about the country. The Turks know their booming economy is a big profit centre for Reuters, whose main business is supplying financial news, not reports on Kurds. Reuters is publicly backing

Ms Marcus, who told the court that while she dictated the basic information in the story issued under her name, the final report was a joint effort by Reuters bureaux in Ankara, Istanbul and London. The judges have in turn demanded that Reuters identifies who really wrote the story before the next court hearing on 9 November.



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Scarred by the savage lash of Islamic justice

In Saudi Arabia, the girls are nationals - before deporting held down by a policewoman them home, penniless and in while they are whipped by a man. In the United Arab Emirates, they are ordered to lie on friendship or a serious love afa bench to be lashed, though sometimes their hands are shackled above their heads.

apologetically. They must be restrained in case they run amok during the beatings." For supposed immoral behaviour or for theft, a Filipina, Sri Lankan or Indian maid in the Arab Gulf can expect up to 200 lashes with a bamboo cane no thicker than a man's small finger - administered by a man, of course.

Islamic "justice" had condemned hundreds of young women to be flogged in the Gulf in the past three years - well over 2,000, according to two Asian embassies who have vainly tried to protect their female

disgrace. A chance meeting with a boyfriend, an innocent fair: all have provoked the wrath of five-man sharia courts.

The cruelty of the whipping As an Asian diplomat put it of women is carefully documented throughout the Gulf where, at least in the smaller emirates, newspapers carry daily reports of the flogging of young women who are often the victims of rape at the hands of their employers.

Many of the Islamic court judges who order the whippings are Saudis who have been given sharia court posts outside the kingdom. One Western medical worker who was herself imprisoned on fraudulent charges of "attempted seduction" has reported that several

they are sexually molested".

The savage prison flogging of young women is routine in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations. Take the case of the small Arab emirate of Sharjah. On 23 March this year, an Islamic court there ordered two women to receive 180 lashes for alleged adultery. On 2 April, an Asian housemaid was condemned by the Sharjah court to 140 lashes and a year in prison for an alleged extra-marital relationship. Two days later, the same court ordered two married Asian women to receive 180 lashes for alleged adultery.

Last month alone saw another spate of lashings. On 6 September, a 24-year-old man was sentenced to 90 lashes of the cane for alleged adultery; four days later an



Robert Fisk, Middle East Correspondent, concludes his series on the cruel and brutal treatment of women in the Arab Gulf states

tice had turned."

Asian maid was ordered to be whipped 180 times for "indulging in sex outside mar-riage. Another maid was ordered to be flogged 140 times for "adultery" on 18 September.

Six days later, the Sharjah court ordered a 24-year old Filipina maid to receive 180 strokes of the cane for adultery with a male Indian friend. The Philippines embassy tried to save Josephine Vergara from her punishment, but was ig-nored. "We went to see her and

she was, well, not happy about it," an official from the embassy said. "We tried to see what we could do, but the wheels of jus-

> "Justice" in the United Arab Emirates is always administered by a man who leans over the girl to cane her in the presence of both male and female prison officers and - sometimes, though not always - a doctor. "The man who lashes the girl has to hold a Koran under his right arm as he beats her.

his upper arm for fear he will drop the Koran in the dust," an Asian who has been present at the lashing of a girl told the Independent. But of course, it can still be very, very painful. If the girl screams too much and seems in too much pain, they will administer the punishment in instalments - 40 lashes now,

40 in a week's time and so on." Arab courts insist that the lashings are the only way of en-suring that local "morality" is upheld - though the number of court-ordered floggings sug-gests the opposite. Islamic judges also claim that the women are not permanently scarred, even though this is clearly untrue. In the words of a Canadian nurse who worked in the largest hospital in the Saudi capital of Riyadh: "The

This is to reduce the pain he can inflict, because he cannot move his upper arm for fear he will bear the scars physically and psychologically for a long time.

Asian girls who become pregnant are almost inevitably doomed to be flogged. "If they think they are pregnant, they go to a local hospital - and if they are pregnant, the hospital will always ask them for their marriage certificate," another Asian diplomat said. "If the girls are not married, the hospital is bound by law to tell the police, and the girls are arrested. From there, they go straight to the courts and are lashed. And

then they are deported." Among women subjected to the lash in the Saudi prison of Malaz in 1993 was an Indonesian maid who, according to a fellow prisoner, "had been starved and tortured for two

bot irons on her arms and had beaten her on the head with high-heeled shoes, penetrating her scalp."

The same witness, whose testimony has been made available to the Independent, recorded that "many of the prisoners were domestic helpers who had been raped or otherwise abused by their employers. If they attempted to run away or became pregnant, they were jailed and sometimes lashed".

An Asian diplomat at first refused to discuss the condition of maids who came to his embassy after being whipped. "It is very difficult for me," he said. "The Saudis don't want us to talk about this. But I must tell you that there is blood and there are scars. The way these girls are treated is simple cruelty, you could perhaps call it sadism."

Chinese 'broke promise to sink the CD pirates'

TERESA POOLE

All but one of China's CD factories are again churning out pirated discs, seven months after Peking pledged to crack down on intellectual property will be implementation." As rights abuse.

Representatives of the United States music, film, and computer software industries said yesterday that China had reneged on an agreement with Washington to shut pirate disc ignated for investigating factmanufacturers and open its market to overseas companies.

Eric Smith, president of the US-based International Intellectual Property Alliance, said that after the Sino-US piracy pact was agreed in February, il-licit production in China briefly declined. But by mid-summer at least 27 plants were again making pirated CDs, CD videos, CD-Roms, and laser discs at a rate of 45 million a year.

Everybody knows where they are. Everybody knows who owns them," Mr Smith said in Peking. Paul Ewing of Warner Music added: "The situation is almost back to where it was last year." The only marked difference has been a shift in output higher-value CD-Roms, costing the copyright owners even more

was signed, narrowly averting a \$1bn trade war, the top US negotiator, Charlene Barshef-sky, said: "There is no question that the key to this agreement provide data every three months on the number of establishments raided, products seized and criminals prosecut-

ed. A six-month "special enforcement period" was desories producing pirated CDs, laser discs, and CD-Roms. The US assistant trade representative, Lee Sands, is in Peking this week for discussions with Chinese officials over the limited progress in carrying out the piracy accord. Mr Sands said that the Chinese do not appear to be pursuing offenders with "any seriousness

Clifford Borg-Marks, of the Business Software Alliance, said a CD-Rom containing 200 pieces of software with a legal retail price of \$25,000 (£16,000) had been bought on the streets of Shenzhen, in southern China, for 40 yuan (£3). Microsoft's Windows 95 was on sale within "a couple of days", he said, from cheap music CDs to and had even been found in a Cyrillic version being smuggled from China into Russia.



Note of welcome: Chinese musicians relax before playing at the Foster's brewery commissioning ceremony in Tianjin yesterday – a far cry from the strained Sino-US relations over pirated American CDs

selection of Chinese-manufactured discs purchased in Hong Kong, including an Adobe desktop publishing programme which should retail for \$1,500, but sold for \$8. However, only one Chinese wholesaler had been prosecuted since February, the delegation said.

Mr Smith said US manufac-

links between pirate factory owners and local governments. Raids and seizures from retailers had increased, but the fines and penalties were too low to act as a deterrent. Robin Rolfe. executive director of the International Trademark Associ- crease in sales. Chinese officials ation, said the fines were little had been "fairly ambiguous" more than a "small business tax this week on improved market

An estimated 98 per cent of computer software in use in China is pirated. Under the Sino-US pact, government ministries were supposed to start purchasing legitimate software, but there has been no significant in-

books and music, even though this had been part of the antipiracy agreement

Meanwhile, on the streets near the Independent office, the pirate disc hawkers offering CDs and CD-Roms were out in force yesterday, operating out of a small Chinese supermarket, right under the nose of local

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'Gratitude' cash costs Japan's royals dear

The brick of banknotes was nine inches thick, delicately wrapped in the finest hand-made paper. Bowing deeply and with profuse expressions of thanks, the smalltown politician presented it to the frowning retainer. Once the business was completed, he was led to the back of the big house for an audience with the real recipient of the cash - his

town's patron, Mr Big himself. The scene, described by the mayor of a small city in central Japan, is familiar from a hundred Japanese movies. But in this case there was a difference. For this Mr Big was not a gang chief or corrupt politician trading favours for cash, but the late Prince Takamatsu, a member of the imperial family and an uncle of the Emperor. The contents of the mayor's parcel, and his annual visits to the prince's Tokyo residence, have publicly embarrassed Japan's reclusive imperial family.

The scandal has innocent origins. Every year Otsu, a humble lakeside city near Kyoto, holds a bicycle race, the Takamatsu Cup. The prince, a keen sportsman who died of cancer in 1987, attended regularly as a young man. The sixvisitors to Otsu, and 32bn yen (£200m) in bets. But the bookies have not been the only beneficiaries. Since 1950, Otsu has been paying the Takamatsu family large sums of money simply for the use of its name. In 1978 the "gratitude money" amounted to 500,000 yen (£3,150 at today's rates). But last year, the prince's widow received 10m yen (£63,000). "We wanted to give a respectable gift," the embarrassed mayor explained, "the kind of sum that wouldn't appear discourteous". Records for the first 20 years of the race are lost, but since 1971 the city's courtesy to the Taka-

122m yen (£766,000). The arrangement, unknown to all but a few city officials, was uncovered by a Communist member of Otsu council, and the scandal quickly spread. Potentially, this was more than an embarrassment. Apart from the shady details about wads of bank notes and the secret handovers, the affair raised serious legal questions. Article 8 of Japan's constitution states: "No property can be given to, or reed by, the Imperial House", and the Imperial House Economy Law requires permission from the Diet for gifts of more than 1.6m yen (£10,000). The prince's family clearly had broken the law.

matsu family has amounted to

Within a week, another gratitude scam had been uncovered, involving the Emperor's cousin, Prince Tomohito, who netted 22m yen from a cycle race in another city. Last week, after an investigation by the Imperial Household Agency, the ministry which overseas royal affairs, the matter was brought to a hasty conclusion. Both city councils received cheques re-

couping their donations.
"Gratitude money above 1m yen is far above the socially acceptable level, even if the money was offered to the imperial

public does not condone such practices." The agency's director general declared: "The families accepted the money as donations. They must not have been aware of proper proce-

dures required by the law." Plenty of questions remain unanswered. Could members of the imperial household have been unaware of an article of the constitution? And, as servant, treasurer and social secretary to the princes, was the agency as ignorant of the do-

nations as it suggested? Even more interesting is the light the affair casts on the status of the imperial family. Direct criticism of the imperial institution is still taboo in Japan, partly for fear of ultra-nationalists who threaten radical journalists. But if the media seldom makes a target of royalty, it does not display exaggerated respect either, as the recent scandal showed. The story broke in the liberal Asahi Shimbun, but even



Prince Tomihito at Oxford: Did well from cycle races

the conservative Yomiuri was outspoken in its criticism, urgmg an open debate and expressing incredulity at the imperial Household Agency's

explanation. The most poignant aspect of the affair is the light it casts on imperial finances. Outside the Emperor's immediate family, an imperial prince receives an annual stipend of 27.1m ven (£170,000) a year, and a princess half of that. All other income, from books and speeches for instance, is taxed, as are inheritances. When Prince Takamatsu died, his widow was forced to give the nation most of his estate, to keep a small part of it. The mayor of Otsu told a sad story about this. "On one occasion, when I'd given the money to one of the officers, the princess smiled at me. 'I don't have any voting rights', she told me, but I still have to pay inheritance tax'."

Prince Tomohito, the other race sponsor, suffers from cancer and recently came out of hospital. Unlike a commoner, he receives no social security.

In medieval Japan, some emperors were reduced to such poverty that one was forced to sell his autograph to buy food. Things are not that bad yet, but the most surprising thing about the cycle-race scandal is that Prince Takamatsu and Prince Tomohito genuinely seem to have needed the money.



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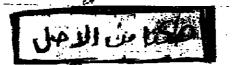
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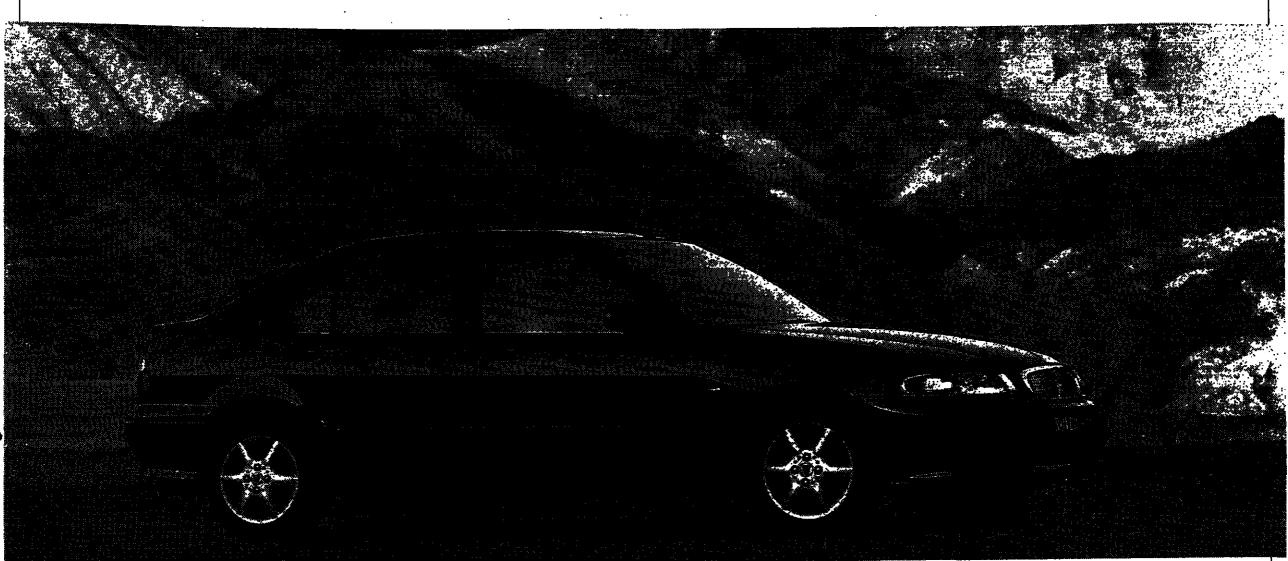
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CCIN

Hugh O'Shaughnessy reports on British plans to equip and train troops notorious for massacres

UK to arm Guatemala regime of terror

Britain is training military personnel from Guatemala, the largest and most powerful of the past 40 years. The killing has produced a protest from the UN Central American republics, which has one of the worst hu-

man rights records in the world. A Foreign Office spokesman also confirmed yesterday that Britain has lifted a ban on sales of military equipment to

The Government sees the possibility of important sales of arms and counter-insurgency equipment in a large market which has for years been supplied from Israel, Guatemala's

staunchest ally.
The news of Britain's military involvement in Guatemala comes as new details filter out of the latest in the Guatemalan army's long catalogue of mas-sacres. On 5 October, at Xaman in the department of Alta Verapaz, a patrol of 26 soldiers killed 10 former refugees who had recently returned from Mexico, seriously wounding 15 more and leaving a score of others suffering less extensive injuries. They were members of the indigenous Maya community, who form the majority in Guatemala but have been the principal victims of a little-reSecretary General and the resignation of the Defence Minister, General Mario Enriquez. "The proposed training is

very minor and developmental," said the Foreign Office spokesman. He would not reveal the number of soldiers who would undergo training here or in Guatemala, but added: "We are supporting the peace process."

The Guatemalan government and guerrilla groups are holding talks in Mexico City, aimed at bringing about social reform in the deeply divided country and halting the decades of hostilities.

In August, the Foreign Office announced help to the Guatemalan police, but denied reports of British military aid. Edmundo Nanne, the Guatemalan ambassador to Britain, confirmed yesterday that an army colonel and naval and police officers were receiving training in Britain. A military cadet is starting at the Royal Military Academy,

The British action has been greeted with disquiet by



Boot camp: The Guatemalan army's outrages have drawn protests from the UN

Amnesty International and other human rights groups. They point out that the United States has halted aid and military sales because of Guatemala's record, which has also entangled the Central Intelligence Agency in a continuing scandal in Washington.

"The measure is not supporting but undermining peace in Guatemala," said Lord Avebury, chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Group. The Government, he added, was breaking the 1993 declara-

tion of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, banning the sale of arms that could be used for internal repression or could exacerbate existing conflicts.

The British decision comes after a senior British diplomat and a police adviser visited the region recently for discussions with the Guatemalan authorities, who for decades were in armed confrontation, with over neighbouring British Honduras. Last month John Deutch the newly ap-

pointed head of the CIA, took the rare step of dismissing two of his senior staff, Terry Ward and Fred Brugger, and disci-plining seven more for their involvement in some of the more murderous activities of the

Guatemalan forces. Colonel Julio Alpfrez of the Guatemalan army, who had been trained by the US army and given a \$44000 payoff on leaving the CIA payroll, was citizen, Michael Devine, in 1990

Photograph: Paul Smith/Panos

Col Alpirez was also found responsible for the death under torture in 1992 of Efrain Ba-

maca, a guerrilla who was married to an American lawyer, Jennifer Harbury. CIA staff kept their involve-ment and knowledge from Ms

Harbury till she forced it out of them after staging a hunger strike outside the White House. Although US military aid to Guatemala was formally ended in 1990, the CIA continued it until December 1993. Ms Har-

bulletins through the evening,

while the media have had an-

other field day talking about

themselves - a subject dearer to

their hearts than any, except OJ.

tinues. Mark Fuhrman, the

racist LAPD officer at the cen-

tre of the case, was reported to

sent film crews scurrying there.

But he proved to be one Mark

be in Bermuda - a titbit that

Elsewhere, the lunacy con-

top," the magazine said.

Mr Rao's view of politics in his book is not entirely favourable. "There comes a time when politics seem pointless even to a politician," he writes. "It holds no promise brings no rewards, affords no satisfaction. On the other hand, it leaves you fretting under a re-

company. No one gave a damn

Minister under threat from a family firm

PEOPLE

Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian Roreign Minister, is in for a double whammy in the campaign to keep his seat in the country's parliamentary elections in December. Vladimix Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic Party leader who regularly lays into the foreign minister for policies he says have eroded Russia's might, is fielding his sister Lyubov to contest Mr Kozyrev's Murmansk seat in the State all-out mutual comprehension."

"She is an ordinary woman of Russia. She is 52 years old, an engineer, and she has had a simple, hard life," Mr Zhirinowsky said, adding that she had "learned about international efficients. affairs through her own

filer ever-helpful brother not-ed: There have been so many people killed abroad, so much blood sheet, so intech moral and financial damage done that my sister, if she were elected, could not be more harmful [than Mr Kozyrev]."

For the past 15 years, Narasimha Rao has been spending his nights with a computer. The brooding, uncharis-matic prime minister of India, 73, has been tapping out "The Other Half", a semi-autobiographical political saga replete with colourful tales of intrigue. sex and power.

The first excerpts of Mr Rao's unfinished novel were revealed this week in a new Indian magazine, Outlook. "How tedious must seem those long hours explaining things to the Opposition when one would much rather create Love on a lap-

lentless maligning blitz from all

One character perfected the art of houtfling his party's ideology dudlessly, without believing a word of it. It worked very well and he found that by and large he was in identical

for beliefs." As Outlook put it: "If you're a writer at heart, liberalising the national economy must be a bit of a bore." Per-haps that's why Mr Rao took to his lap-top, churning out such passages as: "Their bodies, like strangers meeting for the first time, introduced themselves to each other. It was a process in which millions of pores, blood

esseis and reflexes were in an

he winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, to be awarded today, is a closely guarded se-cret. Speculation, however, has centred on the key figures in the Irish peace process, Albert Reynolds and John Hume, and on Bishop Samuel Ruiz in the Mexican state of Chiapas, whose nomination was sup-



Rao: Love on a laptop

ported by the purple thumb prints and X's of illiterate Chiapas Indians.

And, for the fifth time, there is Jimmy Carter, this time for his work in Haiti and Korea. Should he lose again. Mr Carter probably will take it well.

When he discussed the subject with the New York Times earlier this year, he said: "What if the Nobel were really the beall and end-all of my existence? And what if it never happened? Which it probably won't ... But, what if that's what really mattered most and it never came about? Well, what sort of driedup, shriveled-up, disappoint-ed, frustrated old prune of a man would I be then? 'Poor of' Jimmy Carter. He never got his

MARYANN BIRD

OJ affair passes from tragedy to farce

RUPERT CORNWELL WASHINGTON

Hours after pulling out of a scheduled television interview, OJ Simpson called the New York Times to proclaim his innocence and give his first extensive comments on life after acquittal for double murder by a Los Angeles jury - though not by the majority of the Ameri-

lunch is clever. The wine is

clever because it is bottled with

its own electronic mail label:

http://1010virtualvin.com. The

food is clever (though rather dis-

gusting) because it is wrapped

in coloured squares of plastic

sheet and concealed within alu-

minium tiffin boxes that we

are invited to take home. The

helium balloons are very clever,

if you talk to them they answer

But then this whole day is

dedicated to eleverness, not

just in humans, although every-

one here has more than their

share, but in machines. This is

the 10th birthday of the Media Lab at the Massachusetts In-

stitute of Technology (MIT).

and we are at a symposium to

the former football star told the paper's media correspondent, he bowed to the unanimous adpaper's media correspondent, Bill Carter, that he had not killed his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman and that, despite polls showing up to 70 per cent of Americans sure of his guilt, "I don't think most of America believes I did it."

Explaining his decision to cancel the NBC interview, which would have been one of

Why the brave new world

of chips is child's play

vice of his lawyers, concerned that anything he said might be used in the civil suits against him brought by the Goldman and Brown families: "They told me I was being set up, they felt the interview would be tantamount to a grand jury hearing."
But he insisted: "I am an in-

nocent man." He declared himself willing to "sit and dehate" the most watched events in US the case at any time with Mar-

cia Clark, the lead state prosecutor. Simpson denied he was about to marry his girlfriend, Paula Barbieri. Nor had his "Dream Team" of defence attorneys bled him dry: "I still have my Ferrari _ my Bentley ... my home in Brentwood ... my apartment in New York."

The saga of the interview denied and the interview granted marks another step in the passage of the Simpson affair from tragedy to surreal farce. Tom statement was replayed in news bemused New Jersey lawyer.

man, who was to have conducted the "no-holds-batred" encounter on Wednesday - mterrupted programming to break the news of the cancellation with a gravity comparable to Franklin Roosevelt telling America about the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The non-event created a furore nearly as great as the real But he proved to be one Mark thing. Mr Brokaw's historic Furman (without the "h"), a

Veteran US agents go back to Vietnam

BRUCE STANLEY Associated Press

Hanoi — Six American veterans, stooped with age but smiling like old friends, reunited vesterday with Vietnamese they helped train 50 years ago to fight

their common enemy, Japan. The former members of the US Office of Strategic Services, precursor of the Central Intelligence Agency, swapped Second World War-era tales of parachute jumps, radio codes and Japanese surrender with their silver-haired hosts.

Underlying their often emotional exchange was a strong sense of lost opportunities for friendship between the US and Vietnam – and a nunger to build close relations from the wreckage of what the Vietnamese call the American War. "It's the most remarkable

thing to me that the people we hurt so much invited us back," said Carleton Swift Jr., 76. Swift, a retired CIA officer living in Washington, DC, who commanded the OSS unit in Hanoi after Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnam's independence from colonial France. "The tragedy of the Vietnam War is so overwhelming that I

Fenn, 88. Mr Fenn, a writer whose home is west Cork, Ireland, helped organise secret radio communications with Ho's ragtag guerrilla force.

The two veteraans were among the Americans invited to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Vietnam-USA Society. They joined in a discussion with Vietnamese historians and old soldiers at the society's Hanoi headquarters and their talks, due to last two days, were symbolic proof that

relations are coming full circle. Within months of the end of the Second World War, Washington ordered the OSS working with Ho's Viet Minh nationalists to withdraw so that France could reassert control over its Indochina colony. Ho defeated the French in 1954. The US then began supporting the pro-Western government in South Vietnam, finally sending troops to fight a devastating war against Hanoi-led Communist forces.

> amid the noise and haste

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say, it is the 10th day of the 10th gan at 10 past 10.

Clever and very cool. In the world of academe, there are few places as modern as the Media Lab. From its pleasing IM Peidesigned building on the MIT campus close to the Charles River, the Lab has a mission to explain the new universe unfolding before all of us: the universe of personal computing, of the Net and the Web, of browsing and surfing, of chips and bits and of mice without tails. No wonder Nicholas Negro-

ponte, founder of the Lab and the very prophet of digital hip, exudes an I-told-you-so air when he steps on stage. That thing called the World Wide Web (pardon me if I don't attempt to describe it, but I know it is there) is doubling in size every 55 days. Two thirds of all PC's today are heading, not into offices, but into homes.

"The rate of change is just extraordinary, and it's going to

BOSTON DAYS

have an extreme impact on society," Mr Negroponte proclaims. "What was off the wall even nine months ago is considered a conservative prediction today." Acknowledging that he and the Lab have been humans this way are fantastic. dismissed as offering more flash than academic substance, he noted: "Nobody realises that the hype is accompanied by un-

Through the day I keep returning to this. I belong to that part of society that Mr Negroponte calls the "digitally home-less". The young, including the very young, understand his universe and play in it without fear every day. And according to his estimates the second most cyber-savvy generation is over 55. I am in the middle and I still do not know. Is not this a revolution built on type? Am I not going to be buying a daily paper in 30 years as I do now? Am I going to have to get myself a home page on the Web? Are we indeed in the midst of some huge, fantastic rearrangement

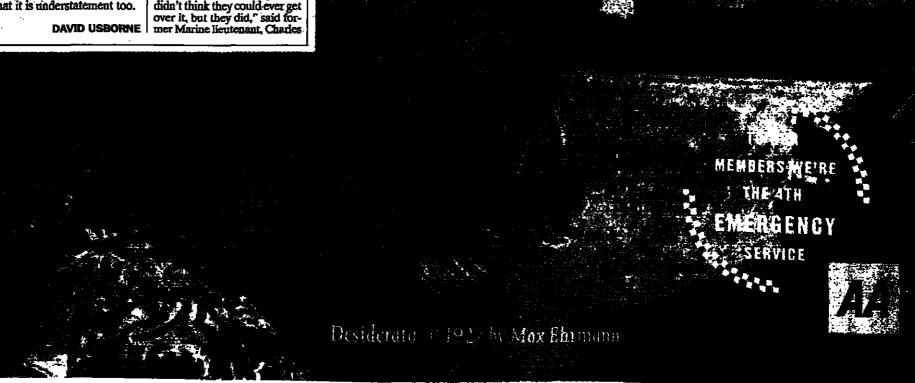
of our cultural furniture? Leaving aside all the glibness, some of what I hear today confirms my natural cynicism. Do we really need computers that will be able to see people's faces and recognise what they are feeling? Don't we do that rather well for ourselves already? And what is the point of the research in the Lab's latest venture, called "Things That Think"? These might, we are told, be intelligent shoes. They could be left on the sitting room carpet to monitor the evening news and transmit the information to our intelligent wallets in our pocket, which would filter out the items not likely to interest us. Finally the filtered version of the news is projected on to some surface for us to read, such

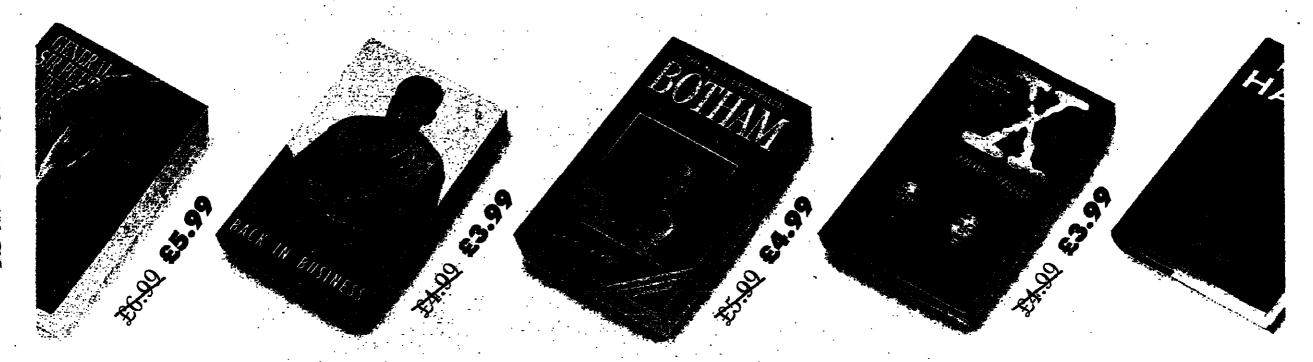
as the inside of an intelligent spectacle lens. Hm. We all applaud. Two men sit on stage with mini-computers under their feet (which one day will be small enough to fit into the sole of a shoe). They shake hands and, as they touch, information that would normally be on a business card flows through their flesh and bone from the computer of the one to the computer of the other. For the sake of the demo, the information - e-mail address included - is projected onto a screen. The possibilities for silent communication between

Could this spell the end of the Masonic handshake? But it is Seymour Papert, the Lab's Lego Professor, who jogs me awake. His special interest is computers and children. With money from Lego - the Lab, by the way, has a \$25m (£16m) budget supplied by sponsor-ships with over 100 commercial companies - he is developing Lego brick toys fitted with mini processors that will be able to

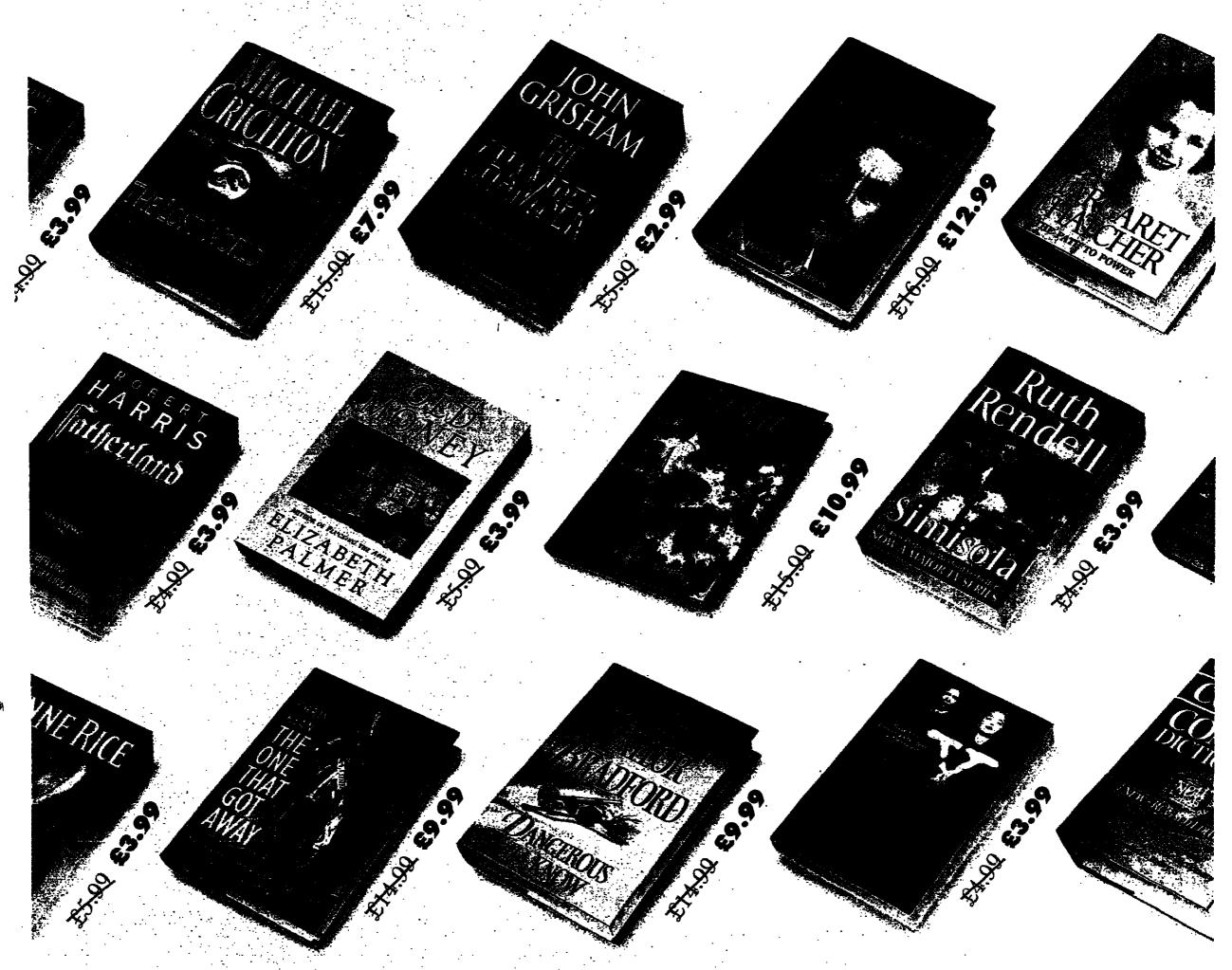
interact with children and play games with them. "Our ways of dealing with the "Our ways of dealing with the process of growing up are unravelling," Professor Papert says. "We are looking at the most radical transformation in human life that will happen in the next decade". Hype? Certainly, But where children and computers collide, my guess is that it is understatement too.







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international

Colonial legacy may split Cameroon

The simmering secessionist movement in the West African country of Cameroon will come to the boil tomorrow when a group representing the country's English speakers declares that at least 1.3m of the 4m population are in favour of breaking away. The Southern Cameroons Nuclear Congress wants the south of the country - formerly a British colony, unlike the North, which was ruled by France - to gain independence.

Though the SCNC claims to have strong links with the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, it is unlikely to mobilise much international backing. But the declaration will

embarrass the country's francophone government which, as it prepares to become the 52nd member of the Commonwealth. claims to have reconciled francophone-anglophone divisions.

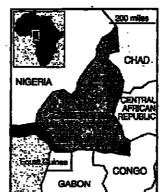
President Paul Biya is no

doubt hoping that Commonwealth membership will bring respectability at home and abroad. Cameroon will be only the third Commonwealth member not once wholly governed by Britain.

The SCNC has filed its own application for Commonwealth membership on behalf of the Southern Cameroons. Its delegation will be a thorn in the side of Mr Biya when he attends the Commonwealth summit in Auckland this November.

is a sign of a growing distance between France and its former colony. President Jacques Chirac left Cameroon out of his recent tour of West Africa and is said to be impatient with reports of corruption and mismanagement there.

English and French-speaking opposition groups have united to lobby the Commonwealth to reject Cameroon's application. They argue that there has been no progress on human rights and the democratisation requested as a pre-condition for Cameroon's membership at the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in October 1993. Specifically, they want long overdue local elections to



be held, an independent electoral commission, the lifting of pre-press censorship and con-

At present, parliament sits for only two months of the year and to rule by decree. Opposition groups also fear collusion with Nigeria and a high-level government delegation is reported to have visited Nigeria with as-surances that, if admitted, Cameroon would oppose sanctions against Nigeria.

French Cameroon became independent in 1960. The following year a UN plebiscite was held and the northern half of the former British Cameroons joined Nigeria while the southern half joined the former French territory. But independence calls have never quite died. The SCNC says the plebiscite was illegal and com-plains that while the Southern

public of "equal status" they have since been "re-colonised" by the francophone region.

The two areas have different legal and educational systems. English-speakers have long said that the government exploited their region's natural resources, in particular oil, but did little to improve living conditions. Anglophones also feel neglected by the Prench, who directed almost all of their post-independence aid to the francophones and whose Mafia-style business links are popularly believed to be re-sponsible for much economic

ismanagement. Moreover, the French ig-nored fraud at the 1992 Presidential election, because they

English-speaker - John Fru Ndi - head the government. Many observers feel that if there is surge of support for the secessionists, it has more to do

with economic decline than any real cultural difference. Cameroon has the same level of poverty as it had in 1964. Unemployment and inflation are high, social services disintegrating and evidence of government waste is everywhere. Just one example, reported

by Africa Analysis, is that the government has ordered a CFA53m (£190,000) statue of the President's late wife. This from a government with a debt of \$2.7bn (£1.7bn) and plans to make 25,000 of its Cameroons agreed to join a re- could not bare to see an employees redundant.

Troops fire on E Timor rioters

Dili (AP) — Indonesian riot police and troops fired in the air and used tear gas yesterday to disperse rival gangs of youths on the third day of unrest in the capital of East Timor, which has so far left two people dead.

No injuries were reported, but gangs of anti- and pro-independence youths continued to roam the streets of Dili, forming barricades with empty petrol drums, old furniture and tree branches to disrupt traffic. Sporadic gunfire was heard.

The Indonesian Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas, blamed the rioting on activists working abroad for East Timorese independence, saying it was another attempt to foment trouble in the former Portuguese colony. Indonesian troops seized the territory in 1976, after Portugal pulled out, but the United Nations still recognises Portugal as the administrative power. Most Timorese are Catholic and speak Portuguese, hindering their inte-gration into Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim nation.

Most shops were closed and public transport stopped as the military responded to a call by the governor, Abilio Jose Osorio Soares, to end the unrest.

The trouble started on Tuesday, after police arrested a proindependence activist, said a local council member, Manuel Carrascalao. Two men were stabbed to death and 18 people were injured in street fighting. Mr Carrascalao said. Five people have been arrested.

The fighting underscored the simmering tensions in East Timor, where pro-independence feeling is strong.

In Jakarta the armed forces

spokesman, Brigadier-General Suwarno Adiwijoyo, said the sit-uation in Dili would be easily controlled, and there was no reason to use excessive force.

Mr Alatas refused to comment on reports that Bishop Filipe Ximenes Belo, a critic of the government who heads the Catholic Church in East Timor, is among five nominees for this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

But he welcomed Australia's decision to deny refugee status to 18 East Timorese who landed in Darwin in May. Australia is one of the few countries which recognises Indonesia's rule over East Timor.

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in England and Wales.

Macadaasi rights

Crisis threatens to disrupt poll in South Africa PRAKASH NAIDOO

Tensions in South Africa's government of national unity, and in the violence-prone province of KwaZulu-Natal, overshadowed a vote yesterday by parliament to hold historic local elections next month.

Polls to replace the last remnants of apartheid in South Africa's elected institutions months by uncertainty over voter registration and haggling over local authority bound-aries. Although the National Assembly voted yesterday to go ahead on 1 November, KwaZulu-Natal will sit out the process for at least another five months.

The parliamentary debate, however, caused the worst infighting between the African National Congress and its governing partner, the National Party, since the national election 17 months ago. Mac Maharaj, the ANC Minister of Transport, called for the Deputy President and leader of the NP, FW de Klerk, to be sacked as chairman of the cabinet committee on security and intelligence, accusing him of threatening a coup while addressing a party rally last weekend.

Yesterday President Nelson Mandela's office moved to dispel rumours, believed to have started in financial markets in London, that Mr de Klerk had resigned, although the ANC said it supported Mr Maharaj's call for his dismissal. Mr de Klerk said he had been

Tension between the two parties has been aggravated by ANC claims that the NP was attempting to manipulate the have been bedevilled for electoral boundaries in the Western Cape, the only province controlled by the party, to improve its chances next month. Polls will go ahead except in the greater Cape Town metropolitan area, the centre of the dispute.

Voting will also be delayed in KwaZulu-Natal, the power base of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party, which has seen the worst wrangling over boundaries.

Peter Miller, Inkatha's provincial housing minister, said yesterday that it would be impossible to go ahead with elections before 27 March next year, the deadline set in the new legislation. If KwaZulu-Natal fails to meet the deadline, the central government is empowered to appoint administrators

Fighting between the Zulu nationalists of Inkatha and of a trouble-free election.



ANC supporters has killed scores of people in the province in recent months. This, coupled with bitter disputes over bound-aries, has undermined any hope

Inkatha, which governs KwaZulu-Natal with a small majority, has argued for a high degree of autonomy from the central government, and Chief Buthelezi is accused of seeking

the secession of the province. The party is refusing to include any tribal areas within , the electoral boundaries of the cities, and the issue will now be referred to a special electoral

court, probably by early next month, for a final decision.

In the rest of the country

education drive in the past six months, a survey this week revealed that many people still believe they can simply turn up at the polls and vote, as they did

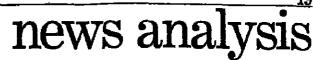




ligan, Conan Doyle, Jan

1997

£185m



Big-money haggling is about to change our whole sporting culture, say Mathew Horsman and David Hellier

The Sky's the limit for sport on TV

Once again British sport is about to change radically. And just success," says Roger Devlin of like last time, television and money - lots of it - are behind the transformation. The creation of football's Premier League in 1992, and its migration to pay-TV through the satellite broadcaster Sky, was the first revolution. It changed the country's favourite sport for ever ploughing a quarter of a billion pounds into the game, improving television coverage and helping to fund the refurbishing of stadiums throughout Britain, as well as providing a large pot to fuel escalating pay scales for star players.

The deal with Sky took too-level

The deal with Sky took top-level live football off free television, forcing the serious fan to dish out for a satellite dish and pay Sky a sub-scription fee. Now, as broadcasters and club owners engage in fresh talks over renewing television contracts, viewers may even have to "pay per view", match by match, as the digital era dawns.

The changes imposed on football have been gentle compared to the revolution occurring in rugby league, where the game has even had its season reinvented. An £89m deal designed to hijack the Australian Rugby League has aligned the British Rugby League with Rupert Murdoch, who owns 40 per cent of Sky, and is responsible for one of the biggest changes in the history of the

in with his proposed Australian super league, and the changes will not stop there. Mr Murdoch's News International, as the game's paymaster, will determine how, when and where it will be played.

Football is a mightier force and has been able to resist such fundamental changes - so far. But the advent of 200-channel television will test its resistance to the full.

Against the odds, Sky's relation-ship to date with football has been relatively sweet, and has not in the main outraged traditionalists. A proud Sam Chisholm, chief

executive of Sky and confidante of Mr Murdoch, says: "It is the most rewarding partnership we have, and the benefits that have flowed to the clubs, the fans and the viewers are enormous.

But if Sky thinks it has helped football, there is no doubting how much of a boost football has given to Sky. Without it the successful vear would have been a good dealharder, if not impossible, to achieve. There is a growing awareness in

the football industry about just how

Henry Ansbacher, financial advisers to a number of leading football cinbs. One chib owner puts it more bluntly: "Let's face it, the Premier League made Sky. In retrospect, we

sold our rights too cheaply and look

Sky became Britain's most prof-itable television broadcaster and it is now the biggest producer of sports programming, spending £100m a year compared to the BBC's £90m and ITV's £40m, It dominates virtually all senior football — to such an extent, indeed, that frustrated

By 2000, viewers are likely to have a huge choice. One thing is clear – the fans will be expected to pay

competitors complain about the Murdoch monopoly: "It almost defies logic that anyone can compete

The move from "free" to pay had other consequences. Where once as many as 12 million people would From next March matches will be watch the highlights of a game on played in the summer in order to fit ITV or BBC, a Premier League match on Sky might get an audience of 2 million. But the coverage itself is massively improved, as even Sky's harshest critics concede and since Sky started showing football live

ttendances have gone up.
The last Sky deal, though, left the rest of the Football League hanging, stuck with a relatively paltry deal with ITV and with no share in the to these hallowed events as well. The first outlines of the future

All that looks set to change, and the implications not only for football but for all televised sports are huge. For the next generation of sports. rights will take us into the era of digital television and the prospect of wall-to-wall sporting events

Even more money will be thrown at sports on TV - perhaps £800m over five years for the Premier League alone. The rump of the Football League, the First, Second and Third divisions, stand to gain more than £120m in that period, with the FA Cup and international matches generating perhaps £130m. Cricket rights might fetch £5m renewed, while a host of secondary rights (for replays, highlights and the likes) could sweeten the sports

-Just how many events will be available to the average viewer is unknown. But one thing is clear, the fan will have to pay for the extra

It is pay-TV that has driven prices to these dizzying heights: the whole point for Sky is buy exclusive rights, obliging viewers to ante up for the privilege of watching. By 2000, viewers are likely to have a huge choice. But they will be expected to pay, either for subscriptions to satellite and cable, or even for smart cards to plug into set-top boxes, giving them home and away games of their favourite teams on digital television. Football has already shown the

way and rugby is not far behind. Only the few events listed by the Broadcasting Act, including the FA: Cup and Wimbledon, will be safe from pay-per-view, although there is nothing stopping satellite or cable broadcasters snapping up the rights

The first outlines of the future of televised sports are discernible in tense talks now under way to renew the contracts for football. The landmark Premier deal, worth £218m over five years for the top 20 clubs, expires at the end of next season,

and the broadcasters and football owners are jockeying for position. At the same time, contracts for the rights to cup finals and interna-tionals, along with the Endsleigh (non-Premier) League, are also under negotiation.

It is a messy, complicated busi-ness. The whole concept of rights in the UK is embryonic, with broadcasters traditionally calling the shots and sports organisations accepting their wishes. Sky helped to change that, by showing just how much money was available. Cinb owners, the Football Association, the Rugby League and other rights holders have responded by becoming more creative - working together to package rights, for example, or pushing for elaborate profit-sharing arrangeents with broadcasters.

Most advanced are the talks. between all three main broadcasters and the Football Association, whos commercial director, Trevor Phili has put together a draft propo combining the FA's own rights — - with the Pootball League. He has secured promises of £250m over-five years from Sky, of which the Football League would receive £133m. As part of the agreement, both the BBC and ITV would "sub-let" rights from Sky, and at least some Football League games would be shown on terrestrial television. Sky would maugurate Friday night football, featuring matches from the Football League. The deal, put yesterday to Football League club owners, must be approved within 14 days, insists

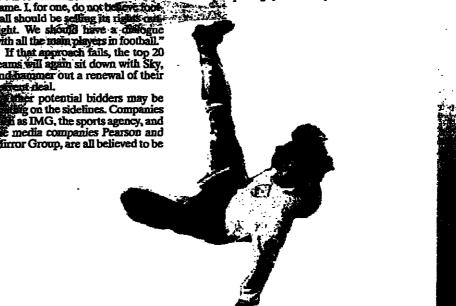
Mr Philips.
The Premier League, meanwhile, making its own pitch to the Football League owners, hoping to entice them into joining forces and securing an even better deal from the broadcasters. David Dein, vicechairman of Arsenal, says his objeccharman of Arsenal, says his objective is to "maximise revenues for the game. I, for one, do not before foot ball should be setting its rights case right. We should have a distingue with all the main players in football."

If that approach falls, the top 20 teams will again at down with Sky, and its more out a receival of their

and named out a renewal of their an deal. Other potential bidders may be as IMG, the sports agency, and considering round; rival ... consortia to wrest the Premier League away from Sky. Whoever wins - and Skymms be the favourite - traditionalists may still have cause to worry. If pay per-view becomes the norm, the British game is bound to change. With virtually every game on tap, and no need to travel to the local stadann, let alone out of town, can the coline of British football survive?

The fears that preceded the first Sky deal - saturation television cover age half-empty grounds and grow-ing hadmahity between mega-clubs and the hankrupt also-rans — may well residuace.

norman py Dave Hadfield.



Listed events

Under the 1990 Broadcasting Act, viewers receiving cable or satellite TV should not pay an additional fee for "listed events". Nothing prevents listed events being exclusively shown on satellite/cable channels: each sporting organisation decides on its own TV contracts. Rugby Union and Wimbledon have so far decided to stay with terrestrial television to reach a larger audience. Rugby League negotiated a deal with Sky.

Listed events are: Cricket: England's test matches

Racing: the Derby, Grand National Football: Fife World Cup finals, FA Cup final, Scottish FA Cup final Tennis: finals weekend of Wimbledon Olympic Games

The Commonwealth Games and the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race were initially considered but finally removed from the list.



Value of broadcast rights to football

Kremlinologists in the Conservative Party bunker tell me it was no accident that Baroness Thatcher (Happy Birthday, my dear) found herself beside the Prime Minister for Ken Clarke's speech to the party conference yesterday. Wilkes finds it hard to believe, but it was the first time on record that the Prime Minister and his predecessor have sat together on

director of communications and

briefly Downing Street political

plum and deeply beautiful Westmoriand and Lonsdale? The

constituency is one of the most

adviser, jump too soon in securing the

beautiful in the country, but far away from Westminster. Sad for poor Mr

Collins, he headed to distant parts

before the frequently untrousered

doubt to spend more time with his

secondhand cars. The constituency

association chairman is none other

than Di Collins, mother of Tim.

announced that he would stand down

from his Epping Porest stronghold, no

Wilkes has an idea for the Millennium

Fund. Never mind spending it on refurbishing village halls. It should be

used to create a permanent audio-

Heseltine's past conference speeches.

During his performance this week Wilkes was suddenly impressed by the thought that he was witnessing the

end of an era for a politician aptly

dubbed Widow Twanky. Hezza in full

visual exhibition of Michael

transport minister Steven Norris

the platform. It was carefully stage-managed by that wily Ulster matchmaker Brian Mawhinney, the party chairman, to emphasise continuity and unity. Lady Thatcher sat on Mr Major's right, while Ken Clarke, Margaret's Brutus, sat on his left. All that was needed to complete the happy picture was Sir Edward Heath. But the canny old buffer understandably thought better of making up the

He was already safely back in the comfort of Cathedral Close, Salisbury.

Of course, as Father of the House, my redoubtable friend Sir Edward has no need to adjust his sails either for the Prime Minister or today's birthday girl. Indeed, it is not lost on Sir Edward that the death of Lord Home gives him even more gravitas. He is now the senior former prime minister, putting one over on Baroness Thatcher

And he will not be sorry to miss John Major's keynote speech today in Biackpool. Sir Edward has little stomach for the Nuremberg railies in the Conservative Party conference hall, having witnessed Hitler address the real thing. After the event, the ng pro-European Heath was introduced at a reception to some of the German party leaders, including Himmler. "He had a very watery handshake," Sir Edward remem Wilkes observed it was like John Gummer's, "I have never shaken John Gummer's hand," said the former

in the rush for safe Tory seats did Tim Collins, former Central Office

flow is as remarkable as the Niagara Falls and ought to be preserved for

This conference is not like 1986, when the Tories turned the tide. There is a whiff of decay about. A team of Labour Party activists is going to try to get the message across to the Cabinet this morning with a 40ft-high quotation from the Blair speech, all about the Thries wrapping themselves in the flag while destroying the fabric of society. It will be written in the and outside the main conference hotel on the Blackpool Prom. It is to be hoped they have studied their tide tables correctly. Otherwise, it could be a wash out.

Michael Dobbs, the former Tory vice chairman, has done it again. His House of Cards, about a prime minister ousted in a party leadership election, was turned into a BBC drams on the eve of the fall of Margaret Thatcher. Next mouth (starting on bonfire night), the BBC starts its serialisation of his The Final Cut. Mr Dobbs's powers of prediction are undimmed. The Final Cut features a character called Tom Makepiece, who crosses the floor of the House, unable to stay in the same party as the cynical, manipulative Francis Urquhart. Come to think of it, Alan Howarth does look a little like a bitpart actor in a TV drama.

The tough-talking Hezza clearly has a disciple in the diminutive but



sturdy figure of Gillian Shephard. For the first time in her life, Mrs Shephard objected to the size of her hotel room, and effected a swift change to something a little larger than a broom cupboard at the Imperial Hotel. At last, Gillian is showing real signs of leadership tendencies.

Sir George Young travelled to Blackpool by train on Monday, and was asked by a customer services operative to fill out a questionnaire about the Poole to Edinburgh crosscountry service. Under "occupation" he dutifully wrote out "Secretary of State for Transport". The next question was: "To whom to you report?" Sir George was going to put "The Queen", but then consulted his political advisers. After discussion, be wrote "The Prime Minister". No doubt the InterCity employee who received the form muttered to him or

Like most right-thinking people with medals in his top drawer, Wilkes's normally robust stomach was left measy by Michael Portillo's performance, in which he verbally domed the sandy beret of the SAS.

His macho performance has been the subject of much ribald comment among the drinking classes at Jeffrey Archer's splendid parties. One young turk in the Tory high command told Wilkes it was "sexploitation with military hardware*.

It was all too much for one old soldier in the Tory high command, who said the Defence Secretary had funked his chance to serve his country by refusing to join a military cadet corps when he was a youth. Wilkes believes Mr Portillo's lack of a military record may come to haunt the young pretender. He will never be a Major. Ken Livingstone, who is doing a film for LWT, doorstepped Mr

Portillo with a film crew as the Defence Secretary arrived at the Savoy Hotel, Blackpool, to address the annual dinner of the Thatcherite Conservative Way Forward group. "Twe been exchanged for Alan Howarth," said Ken brightly. Mr Portillo was not amused.





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* INDEPENDEN

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The voters aren't daft, Mr Howard

Michael Howard in crime-fightin' guy mode resembles nothing so much as an American police chief up for re-elec-tion. His speech to the Tory faithful yes-terday claimed much ("we are taking our country back from the criminals") and promised more. Despite all the other possible claims on the Government's time and despite the fairly recent introduction of the Criminal Justice Act - the Home Secretary committed himself to a new Crime Bill to be introduced in the relatively short time between now and the next general election.

No one could accuse Chief Howard of subtlety - his timetable is almost painfully political. He plans to embarrass Labour by bringing forward measures that Jack Straw and his colleagues are bound either to oppose for their illiberality or that will divide them. Mr Howard knows full well that Labour believes (along with almost all the experts and the students of crime prevention) that longer and more mandatory sentences cause as many problems as they solve. And he judges that large sections of Middle Britain do not see it that way. The gulf is just waiting to be exploited.

Howard's way is clear. He will legislate for mandatory life sentences for secondtime violent and sexual offenders and introduce stiffer minimum sentences for burglars and drug dealers. This, he argues, is what being tough on crime means. Those who oppose are therefore soft on crime.

Yet even as he basked in the inevitable ovation, Mr Howard knew one of these two had a meeting in which Lord Taylor delivered his own strong preference for retaining the maximum discretion in sentencing. He argued that the problem in deterring crime lay in low rates of detection, not in short sentences.

Mr Howard is entitled to disagree with

the views of the judiciary. He could have argued that they were ignoring this key fact, or overlooking that bit of evidence. But he didn't. Instead he spoke as though the argument had never been made. He

simply ignored the Lord Chief Justice.

And just as Michael Portillo had earlier managed to offend the services by his crass invocation of the SAS and the British fighting man, so Mr Howard brought the wrath of another institution - the judiciary down around his ears. For Lord Taylor is a man of our times, prepared (unlike his predecessors) to enter the public lists where he sees the need. His intervention was momentous. He dismissed the idea that the threat of longer sentences deters habitual criminals. "What deters them is the likelihood of being caught, which at the moment," he added scathingly, "is small." 'Does anyone believe," he went on, "that a professional burglar, who knows he has at most only three chances in 20 of being caught, will be deterred by the addition of six months to his sentence?

Michael Howard has calculated that the answer to Lord Taylor's question is yes. We are not so sure. Underestimating the electorate's intelligence is a game politicians play at their peril. Especially when opponents was likely to be the Lord Chief someone as persuasive as Lord Taylor. Only a week ago the around to put the record straight. someone as persuasive as Lord Taylor is



A schancellors go, Kenneth Clarke has been a good one. So far. In difficult political times he has held his nerve and stuck to a strategy to restrain inflation and deliver sustainable growth. But yesterday's speech suggests that he may be about to risk his reputation in pursuit of short-term

grow without inflation taking off. A static housing market, combined with hefty tax increases, have kept consumer spending subdued.

However, yesterday's unexpected jump in the underlying inflation figures, from 2.9 per cent to 3.1 per cent, shows the continuing fragility of our current noninflationary growth. And given the risk that higher inflationary expectations may feed through to future wage rises and price rises, the Chancellor needs to proceed with caution, both on taxes and on interest rates.

However, such caution is not an attractive counsel when you are drifting to electoral defeat. The party craves a tax cut here, an interest rate cut there, and a boost for the housing market thrown in for good measure.

Mr Clarke should stand firm and not deliver. An interest rate cut when inflation is moving upwards faster than expected would be too risky. A tax cut funded by borrowing would only add to the inflationary pressures. A package for the housing market would also distort the fiscal regime and make it harder to deliver worthwhile reductions in the tax burden when they can be afforded.

The Chancellor's big problem is that growth is running slightly lower than expected, so there is no bonus from higher tax receipts - or lower spending on unemployment - to redistribute. That, of course, leaves a tax cut funded by spending cuts as Mr Clarke's only way forward.

Yet no one who heard him yesterday Paradoxically, the absence of a feel- can doubt that he intends to unveil what month. By that he may well mean the sort of tax cuts we have had in the past 15 years - namely, not tax cuts at all but a re-juggling of the tax burden.

It is an entirely legitimate aim of a Tory government to pursue a genuinely lower overall tax take - something like the 35 per cent we had in the Sixties, rather than the 40 per cent-plus of the Eighties and Nineties. But this, even if desirable, could not be achieved by sleight of hand; it is only possible if the state's expenditure is radically recast, perhaps along the lines that were suggested this week by Norman

Mr Clarke has never been this kind of radical. He cares too much about the NHS and the social security system. Which leaves only unsustainable tax cuts and gimmicks.

His likeliest budget trick is to promise a programme of falling taxes stretching over several years - to be funded by future and implausible spending cuts. This might be smart politics in that it would help interrogate Labour's hazy thinking on tax. But make no mistake, it would be a gimmick. We will probably be lucky if we get through the election with no folly greater

ANOTHER VIEW Pam Ayres

Permit me my wrinkles

Well, I am all for it - clear and effec-tive speech. I am not talking about the cut-glass stuff, the plum in the mouth, the haw-haw have a devil on horseback Claude. I mean people who know the words and use them correctly and can see how each sentence is going to finish before they start it. So when I read yesterday that Gillian Shephard desires all our children to leave school speaking clearly and effectively in standard English, my first thought was, "Good on yer!"

The thing that bothers me is the possibility that, by promoting only standard English, the other rich types of English usage are left to fossilise

I know Mrs Shephard says she is not referring to regional accents, but I wonder how successfully the two matters can be separated. What is it, anyway, this standard English? What does it outlaw? While I think any damage inflicted on regional speech patterns by Shephard will be secondary to the blows already dealt it by a mobile population and a television in every living room, nevertheless regional dialects must be threatened further by the adoption of standard English. Does that matter? I believe it does.

Take one of my first boyfriends. He was a Geordie. For me, fresh from Stanford in the Vale, Berkshire, listening to him was like listening to a foreign language. I doubt that what he said to me was structured in standard English, but it was beautiful just the same.

Take my old uncle who lived in a little £4.99.

isolated village near Uffington. He never said he was going to the toilet. He said he was going up the dyke. Dyke. Natural watercourse. Ditch. The language takes you back and informs you what people did pre-privy. My mum never used to say she was going to have a look: she went to have a "kite round". It is from the wheeling bird of prey and is a centuries-old usage. In a Cornish village recently, a man was standing in his garden and I asked him where a friend of mine might live. The man looked up brightly. "Know ee, do ee?" he said. What happens to people who say: "Know ee, do ee?" Mrs Shephard?

Don't misunderstand me. I am not campaigning for regional accents to be preserved in aspic. I have had one for a lifetime and I am not sure I would wish it on a dog. Mention me and people shut one eye and shout, "Ooh ar!" I write comic verse. Well over two million books sold and my current one is in its fourteenth reprint. Yet I hardly ever see a reference to myself in the press without some put-down relating to my voice. Make way for the Bucolic Bard, the Rustic Rhymster, the Shakespeare of the Shires. It is irritating after 20 years. But, Mrs Shephard, despite all my years of fighting "voicism", I would not want all the wrinkles ironed out of our language. Me-

The author is a writer and entertainer. Her latest book is 'The Works', BBC Books,



I'm not nickin' anythin'! Just warn Howard to lay off!'

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Michael Portillo's virtual reality leaves no room for the facts | Democracy

From Mr A. L. Teasdale Sir. Am I alone in having difficulty in recognising various statements in Michael Portillo's speech to the Conservative Party

conference as accurate or real? For example, the Defence Secretary says that qualified major-ity voting (QMV) will never be extended to foreign policy in Europe so long as the Conservatives are in power. Why, then, did John Major agree at Maastricht that QMV can be used for 'implementing measures" in the foreign policy field?

Mr Portillo says Britain will not jom a "single European army" under the Conservatives. Has he not read the interim report of the so-called Reflection Group preparing next year's Intergovernmental Conference (IGC)? This readily accepts that "national sovereignty remains the basic point of sensus has to be the rule". Where

is the threat from Brussels here? Mr Portillo says Britain could never "merge our defence co-operation into the EU" under the Conservatives. Perhaps not, but is it not this Government which has proposed that the Western European Union (WEU) should hold defence summits dove-tailing with those of the EU? And was it not Mr Major who agreed at Maastricht that the WEU

Baroness who

inspired Nobel

ist manqué".

From Dr Peter van den Dungen

Six: In his article on the Nobel

prizes, Paul Vallely (10 October) writes that Nobel acquired his

pacifism from an Austrian baron-ess friend "who was also a novel-

This is an unworthy put-down of

one of the most remarkable and

high-minded women of the pre-

1914 world. Bertha von Suttner,

the author of many novels (often

of social criticism), was extremely well-known in the German-

speaking world and had become

Austria's most popular woman

writer and journalist by the turn of

the century.

Her novel Lay down your arms!

Good neighbour

Sir: As Professor Burchell's next-

door neighbour, I am aghast at

Karel Schuck's slur upon me

offending British Telecom direc-

tory because I, too, was away at

the time. Only my cleaning

lady's availability to take in the

directory saved me from a sim-

On noticing the directory on

my return, I went immediately to

remove it from my neighbour's

doorstep only to find that the bur-

glar had already defeated my good intention. So I called the

police, made a statement, gave

the police constable a cup of tea,

arranged the boarding-up, con-tacted my neighbour and later helped him to drown his sorrows

by sharing with him a bottle of

extraordinarily good wine (which

What more should I have

I was unable to remove the

From Dr John Orbell

(Letters, 11 October).

ilar fate.

he provided).

Yours faithfully

JOHN ORBELL

London, N1

11 October

done?

(1889) was translated into 27 11 October

should develop "as the defence component of the EU"?

At Blackpool, Mr Portillo and others reportedly denounced concepts such as "ever-closer union" and continued European "integration". The first commitment is set down in the opening lines of the Rome and Maastricht treaties. The second concept was endorsed by the Government as recently as last month, when David Davis, Foreign Office Minister for Europe, was among those to "unanimously emphasise the need to continue and strengthen European integration", as reported in the IGC Reflection Group's

interim report. The virtual reality politics of Mr Portillo has no place for these facts. Just as he systematically accuses opponents in other parties of policies they do not support, so he forces pro-Europeans within clude that his real agenda is, through wilful misrepresentation, to make Britain's continued membership of the EU mworkable. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY TEASDALE London, SW3

11 October From Mr Simon Berger Sir: I beg to disagree with your editorial criticism of Michael Portillo's speech ("Michael Por-

languages and made her famous world-wide. Tolstoy complim-

ented her for having written "the

Uncle Tom's Cabin of the peace movement". While not abolishing

war, her novel invigorated and

inspired the international peace

movement in the quarter-century

It has been claimed with con-

siderable justification that hers

was one of the most influential

novels of the 19th century. It also

started Nobel on the course that

resulted in his establishment of

the Peace Prize (of which von

Suttner became the first woman

Department of Peace Studies

Two-parent policy

Sir. In her comments on Frank

Field's suggestion that the lone

parent premium should become

an extra benefit for couples, Polly

Toynbee ("Why single mothers baffle Mr Lilley", 11 October

asks: "Is any man really so much

The evidence points to the

answer "yes - probably". Re-

search studies are showing that

boys, in particular, are more

likely to grow up troubled and

troublesome lacking the pres-

ence and constructive influence

Any new policies made only

with an eye to cash cost and pay-

ing no regard to knowledge of

likely outcomes are at risk not only

of wasting that cash but of creat-

ing fresh problems and new spend-

ing demands. It is not necessary to

agree with all of Mr Field's ideas

to appreciate that he is seeking not

to make this mistake.

Chairman

From Mr Tony Christopher

better than none?"

of an acult male.

before August 1914.

recipient).

Bradford

Yours faithfully,

PETER VAN DEN DUNGEN

University of Bradford

tillo's shabby patriotism", 11 October). Although I am not a fan of the man or his right-wing views, there is merit in the view that we must not compromise the UK's independence to act as it sees fit in overseas matters, whe-

ther in co-operation with Europe, the United States or others. I share Mr Portillo's view that closer integration of our foreign and defence policies into the European Union will only result in more vacillation and shameful compromise, not less. We must be at liberty to pur-

sue our own national spirit and moral identity, which may not coincide with those of our European partners. I am sceptical that an integrated EU policy in Bosnia would have produced better results than those limited prospects we see today.

From Mr David Rickard Sir: May I say that I have the greatest respect for the SAS, and I resent its name being used for cheap political gains. In Michael Portillo's case, those letters spell out one clear message: Silly At [the] Seaside. Yours sincerely,

DAVID RICKARD Riccall, North Yorkshire

False fears over

From Mr M. C. Kennedy

the national debt

Sir. It is about time we had a truly

independent view of the public

finances. Gavyn Davies ("A

mountain of reasons to reduce the public debt", 9 October) likes

to keep up with the latest acade-

mic papers - Ricardian equiva-lence and all that! But these,

unfortunately, can spell disaster

for the policy-maker who takes

them seriously.

The interest-raising effects of

public deficits can; are, and

almost always have been cor-

rected by accommodating mon-etary policy. The small rise in real

interest rates since the 1960s is

not due to higher public debt, but

to tighter monetary policy in

reaction to the inflation of the

1970s. Nice as it would be to have

no national debt at all, the con-

Sir: Around the world, the three letters SAS are immediately recognised as the acro-

nym for Scandinavian Airlines and not, as Michael Portillo clearly assumes, our Special Air Service. Non-Brits must be wondering why a most con-genial airline should "send a chill down the spine of the enemy". Which enemy, by the

Yours faithfully, Netl Calder 11 October

From Mr Peter N Sir: Who now dates to put clear blue water between the Conservative Party and the National Yours faithfully. Woking,

11 October From Mr Peter Calvocoressi Sir. I remember speeches like Mr Portillo's and their rapturous reception in the Thirties. But not in Britain. Yours faithfully. PETER CALVOCORESSI

Bath 11 October

If this is done globally, as Mr Davies seems to desire, the result could be a world recession (and also less inflation). If this

titude is itself a goal of economic policy. The national debt is very largely owed to ourselves, and its main consequence is a transfer problem - an interest payment by taxpayers to the holders of government securities. With present levels of debt and deficits there is not the least danger of this get-

is what we want, then say so. But

let us not pretend that fiscal rec-

ting out of hand.

The real goals are price stability and employment, and the politicians should focus on these. As for Mr Davies's pleas for a worldwide fall in interest rates (alias capital gains on gilts) this might be welcomed by the City of London, but would be unlikely to undo the ill effects of his proposed fiscal tightening. Yours faithfully,

M. C. KENNEDY School of Economic Studies University of Manchester 11 October

world remain in the hands of a self-perpetuating male clique. The "arbiters of taste" – art crit-

ics, art gallery proprietors and

dealers - are predominantly male, so without being in any way

consciously sexist they tend to

prefer and promote the works of

male artists. As a result, the most

famous works of fine art attract

mainly male admirers, so the

next generation of art critics, etc.

only the occasional Dame

innumerable Dora Carringtons of

the ladder.

Yours faithfully,

Rupert Lee

Women artists, male critics

From Mr Rupert Lee artist.

A reason for this lack of female . Barbara Hepworth manages to artists is suggested by Gloria challenge the negemony. The mnumerable Dora Carringtons of design is a woman's turn-off" (7. this world, lacking any serious Angust). Apparently, men and encouragement, are fated to remain a few rungs further down thetic tastes, and tend unconsciously to prefer works of art by members of their own sex.

Yours faithfully, TONY CHRISTOPHER TU Fund Managers the higher echelons of the art 2 October London, WC1

sequences of reducing it -whether to enhance a politician's reputation or to meet the Maastricht guidelines - are bound to deflate national income and

Sir: In answer to Clive Exton (letter, 30 September), it is worth pointing out that among the ranks of our-recognised top artists women are very much in the minority, so it may not be sur-prising that none of the Independent's "40 women under 40" is an

If this is true, it explains why London, SW14

and Saudi law

From Sir James Craig Sir: I was abroad when you pubbished Robert Fisk's article about the beheadings in Saudi Arabia ("Secret Saudi executions shame the West", 9 October). So I hope you will allow this belated comment.

I am deeply opposed to capital punishment, and even more opposed to public beheadings. But what does the word "secret mean in your headline and in Mr Fisk's phrase "the majority of the executions were kept secret from all but spectators"? Nothing could be less secret than that,

The Saudis have a legal system which, as criminals know, prescribes execution for certain offences. The system would not change if Saudi Arabia had the democracy that Mr Fisk advocates. be our system too if (heaven forbid) public opinion had its way. Yours faithfully, JAMES CRAIG

London, SW1 12 October The writer was Ambassador to Saudi Arabia (1979-84).

From Mr Stephen Jakobi Sir. I have read the articles by Robert Fisk [about judicial pun-ishments in the Gulf states] with horror but some of the correspondence that has followed (Letters, 11 October) appears to me

to be at variance with the facts.
Gavin Sherrard Smith was flogged in secret by relays of police officers on 3 May 1994. Buried in the transcript of the Qatar court that ordered his flog-ging is the following curious judi-cial comment

reprimand offences under religious jurisprudence are not required to be proven in the same way as the crimes that require the imposition of penalties and reprisals.

Religious courts in Qatar and, one suspects, elsewhere in the Moslem world, are therefore not required to conform to the requirements of the state crimi-

The last religious courts in Europe that had power to order imprisonment and beatings without regard to state laws was the Spanish inquisition over 150 years ago. The learned arguments on Shia law are surely beside the point in circumstances such as these. Yours faithfully,

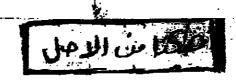
STEPHEN JAKOBI Fair Trials Abroad Trust Richmond, Surrey 11 October

From Professor J. R. Pole Sir: The Ambassador of Saudi Arabia (Another View, 10 October) and other members of the Muslim religion who have expressed their satisfaction at livmg under its laws, are all members of the male sex. It is, unfortunately, a little late to ask whether the decapitated female victims of these laws shared their satisfaction. Yours faithfully, J. R. POLE

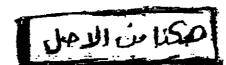
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Oxford

11 October



Austria



comment

Of courtesy and Chinese orphans

Replying dutifully to letters is not worthwhile, especially where campaigners are concerned

A nswering mail has always seemed to me a sacred duty and, although I have not always managed abandoned children a year in China. According to its publicity, "the mortality rate in China's filthy, overit, I have spent many thousands of hours and pounds struggling to cope with all kinds of missives, flattering, frightening, foolish or friendly. Now the worm is on the turn. I am steeling myself to bin without mercy, because answering letters is a courtesy too far in a world without scruple. A case in point is my correspondence

with the Dying Rooms Trust.

If, as I did, you lingered abed long enough to catch the last hour of GMTV on Wednesday, you will have seen a handsome young English couple with a bonny Chinese baby girl.
They told how they had been so moved by The Dying Rooms documentary shown on Channel 4 in June that they had given up their place high on the list for adoption of an Englishborn child and shelled out £10,000 on a trip to China. They seemed not in the least cross that when they got there they didn't have the thrill of rescuing an infant from the brink of death but collected a well-cared-for child from a well-run institution. Of all the overseas adoption stories 1 have ever heard, this one was startlingly light on official obstructionism deliberate stalling and delay and attempts at extortion. And never a

mention of the Dying Rooms Trust.
The Dying Rooms Trust was set up in the immediate aftermath of the emotional shock caused to this caring nation by the documentary. Its stated aim was to "tackle the greatest ongoing tragedy the world has ever seen, namely the institutionalised cruelty and even murder of around 1 million

crowded orphanages is a horrifying 79 per cent." Clearly the young English couple went to a different China. I, too, have been to a different China. A trustee of the Dying Rooms Trust wrote to me in August asking for my support in raising funds (how else?) and informing me triumphantly that the trust was to be the beneficiary of the autumn appeal in the new series of Anne and Nick. One of the most baffling attributes

of the English is their tendency to believe that they would make far bet-ter parents of other people's offspring than they do of their own. Charity after charity begs us to save the chil-dren. (And this in a country where fathers spend less than five minutes a week in close contact with their children.) I greatly distrust our interest in other people's progeny and I dis-trust it even more in the context of the criminalisation of a quarter of the world's population. In China gaily dressed children are to be seen everywhere, perched on the handlebars of their fathers' bikes, snozzing on their mothers' backs, being held over the gutter to pee, always in close contact and communication with adults. The Chinese don't dub children adorable and then ignore them; they actually enjoy their company. To swap a child-centred culture for one that prefers the company of dogs seems to me no bargain. So I thought hard about the trust's letter for two weeks and answered it at length. I argued that, if you really believe that the situation portrayed in the documentary pre-



GERMAINE GREER

All those demands for my favourite recipe, poem, book - into my big new shiny black bin

vails all over China and is the result of official policy, the solution is not to export a handful of children to an alien culture but to put pressure on the Chinese government. To exploit such a lamentable situation as a way of completing British families strikes

me as wrong from every point of view.
It would be extraordinary if serious inadequacies in child-care institutions could not be found within a peasant nation of a billion people. It would be equally extraordinary if the Chinese authorities had been delighted that foreigners bad found them. What response could Chinese television producers expect to a request for permission to make a documentary on child abuse in English institutions? Would the Chinese have reason to argue that such abuse is institutionalised and condoned and universal? It certainly takes us a belluva long time to get around to doing it.

The orphanages full of girl chil-dren are the result of the widespread implementation in China of the draconian one-child policy, which has only now begun to be condemned and that palely, because we want fewer Chinese even more passion-ately than the Chinese do. In 1984 I wrote in a largely misunderstood book called Sex and Destiny that We do not wish to hear that Chinese policy is brutal because we need to feel secure in the certainty that we do not need to oppose it. Our support of drastic policies soils us by association and coarsens our understanding of what is meant by democracy." It is too late now to suggest that we could remedy the situation by adopting a few hundred unwanted girl babies. The Chinese have proved that they can perform miracles; the work of eradicating the historic preference for boy children will be done by the

Chinese, if it is done at all. Clearly, I shouldn't have bothered to explain my misgivings about the Dying Rooms Trust in a letter to Diana Holmes. My reward for this courtesy was to be pilloried as a "maverick" in an inexcusably sensationalist double-page spread in the London Evening Standard, featuring an appalling picture of a naked, emaciated child at the point of death. If, as most of those approached by the trust probably did, I had binned the original letter and held my peace, I'd have saved time, energy, money and wear and tear upon the soul.

The tendency to exploit private correspondence for newspaper coverage is not limited to the harder edge of fund-raising. The average punter has realised that a letter from a celebrity is money in the bank. A few weeks ago I had a letter from a disabled man who had written a novel, which he wanted me to help him to get published. I read the terrible stuff he sent, and answered him at once in the person of my assistant: "Dr Greer has asked me to return your print-out with her apologies. Any endorsement that Dr Greer would offer would have to imply that she considers your work to be of outstanding quality. She is sorry to have to say that in her honest opinion this is not the case. This is not by any means to say that it is unpublishable."

Even publishers don't return unsolicited manuscripts. From now on, I won't either. Then I won't get the letter telling me that the man is dead, and my "harsh and unkind words" the last letter he got and destined to be, with "all reactions from the 100 famous people be approached for help, published in the newspapers".

That settles it. Bin, bin, bin. All those demands for funds to put deserving people through drama, law or art school, bin. All those befuddled requests to explain what fuck-me shoes are, bin. All those 20page hand-written screeds explaining the meaning of life, bin. All those reproaches for things I didn't say, bin, glorious bin. All those demands for my favourite poem, recipe, book, colour, into my big new shiny black garbage bin. No more filing and cross-referencing. I will save only the stamps for the hospital. No more queuing in the spectacularly inefficient post office. Calloo callay!

Thatcher: the final challenge

Tt's Margaret Thatcher's birthday today. The best birthday present anyone could give her would be the leadership of the Tory party. She always wanted to be still leading the Tory party at the age of 70. In fact, she had already written the speech she would deliver to celebrate the occasion. Here it is, copied from her actual notes, as they are to be found on show in the Margaret Thatcher Foundation Travelling Exhibition:

Man says: "Pray silence for Margaret Thatcher!" I stand up. I quell the conference hall with a glance. I say: "My Lords, ladies and gentlemen..."

There is a gigantic ovation. I let it run for a minute or two then quell it with another glance. I glance at my notes, and then ostentatiously throw them away. I speak as follows, from another set of notes which have already been left on the lectern

for this very purpose ...
"My Lords, ladies and gen-tlemen, I have now been leader of this great party for 20 years, and more. During that time we have seen it grow from an opposition party to a party in power, of power and with power!" Wait for round of applause here, even though the mellifluous phrase means nothing. Sheep, the lot of them.

During that time I have built the party into a monument to solidarity, loyalty and cohesion. Whatever we have wanted to do we have done. People said we could not regain the Falk-land Islands. We did it! People said we could never tame the trade unions. We succeeded! They said we could never introduce a national lottery. They

backed the wrong horse!" Cheers and laughter here. If enough, maybe venture a joke along the lines of: "They said we could never do without Norman Tebbit. Norman who?" More cheers and laughter.

During the time I have been at the helm of this great party of ours I have been accused of being anti-European. Nothing could be further from the truth. Why, single-handedly I have often had to keep the Mark afloat by myself ..."
Puzzled silence here.

laughter.

"But there comes a time when even the most dedicated leader has to ask herself whether she has not fulfilled her task. After 20 years at the top, are there any challenges left? Would I not be happier if I simply left Westminster for a life of bucolic happiness?"

Horrified silence here. NB. Must look up meaning of bucolic.

The straight answer to that is - No! I would be miserable! I need more challenges, not fewer! Ask any leader of a

grand enterprise how he feels when he has got that enterprise up and running, when he has ironed out the bumps and risks, when he is sailing at 70mph down the motorway of life. I will tell you how he feels. Bored!" Uneasy silence.

Therefore it is at this time that the leader takes up another challenge. He looks round for some other organisation that needs his or her input. He looks for some other body that is waiting for a kick-start so that he can start once again to fulfil his destiny as a leader."

You could hear a pin drop. "Ladies and gentlemen, I have been looking round for such a challenge. I believe I have found it."

Slight pause to allow TV cameras to zoom in and refocus. "Now, if I were ever to leave the Tory party, I know two things would happen. The first would be a spontaneous out-break of grief conveying the message that I could never be



MILES KINGTON

replaced. The second would be a stampede of Tory MPs attempting to replace me. Laughter.

"But it is true! The Tory party is stuffed full of people who think they will be or still can be the leader. We have nothing but potential leaders in our party. The only reason a Tory MP ever resigns is because he has finally realised he will never be PM. If I were to leave, you would not be short of people who were bet-

ter qualified than me.
"It is different in the Labour Party. The Labour Party distrusts leaders. It has always distrusted leaders, whether its own leaders or the leaders in the Guardian newspaper." Pause

here to let joke sink in. "In fact, the Labour Party would rather attack its own "I refer of course to my son, leader than the Tory leader. And given the ca ers in our lifetime, I am not surorised. And yet ... and yet ... "

An ominous silence. "It is often said that Labour needs an experienced leader. It is very often said that Labour will win the next election. This is a very great challenge for Labour. It is also a very great challenge for me. Because I have come before you today to inform you that I intend to leave the Conservatives and

join the Labour Party!" Hubbub, uproar and sensa-tion. See daily press for further developments.

What is this conference madness that turns intelligent people into frothing cartoon characters?

No more seaside slapstick



Columnist of the Year

There is poison in the air, some kind of intellectual pollution. Subtle British people are behaving like morons. I had been going to write a nice conventional piece about Michael thing. But after three weeks of political conferences, their effect on the men and women I know is too disorientating, just too interesting, to be avoided.

The scene is a party, or a hotel

room or a government office. In it, a clever, self-aware man is talking about the world, juggling pluses and minuses, arguing about the public good. This man is - well, Michael Portillo actually. Or Michael Howard. Or Peter Lilley. Or Michael Heseltine. Or almost any of them. Good conversations, real dilemmas.

Then they get up at a conference podium and become barely recognisable caricatures of themselves. Portillo is so offensive about Europe and the SAS that the Foreign Office has to placate continental governments and other ministers pretend not to have heard his speech so as to avoid saying anything about it. His reputa-tion in Whitehall is rising, he has admirers across the political spectrum. But once a year he gets up at the conference and does his best to

destroy it.

He is the most striking recent example, but they are all touched by the same disease. For 51 weeks a year, Lilley is a considerable thinker on social security issues, unpartisan and thoughtful. But take him to the seaside in October and he descends to gimmickry and icers. Michael Howard works like a demon to disguise any hint of open-mindedness. Home Office policy is driven, it seems, by an insatiable appetite for tabloid-headline answers to things we all know are not so easy. The needs of conference come first, and lead to proposals attacked by the Lord Chief

Justice as uniust. Lord Chief Justices can be wrong. But crime has plagued us during the Conservative years. Home secretaries have told Tory conferences, year after year, that they have found the answer, and have failed, year after year, to deliver it. Neither the liberals nor the



Showtime: take them to the seaside in October and they descend into gimmickry and jeers

authoritarians have been convincing. You might have thought there would be some reflection of this history, even an explanation about why Howard rejected the separation-of-powers argument? Not a bit of it. This was written

for instant applause, not for analysis. As conference speeches are judged, Michael Heseltine's, like Michael Howard's, was undoubtedly a tri-umph. What do we mean by this? Again, not that he made us think, but that he succeeded in collapsing this subtle, fascinating country of ours into a Day-Glo cartoon for half an hour. He jumped about, stabbed the air, bellowed headlines, fired cheap shots into the nation's living rooms. Yes, very good. A "triumph", no doubt. He said true things. But I cannot have been alone in finding the spectacle of

a man of his age and intelligence doing pantomime a little demeaning. All these people come to Blackpool, it seems, bent on persuading the country that they are worse, cruder, sillier than they really are. Why, please? Who is meant to benefit from this?

Each day here we have walked through streets filled with poor people on holiday, people dressed badly, short of money and ill-looking, searching glumly for fun. Then, once inside the conference capsule, we have heard the party pretending that Britain is a sunlit land of rich and self-confident

Tory cause much good.

Perhaps these blank simplicities are needed as an annual reward to the party faithful for cold nights hobbling long suburban avenues with leaflets? Once in the hall, the representatives also speak in stark headlines. Moistfaced young men and grinning old ladies wildly applaud stale jokes against Labour. But one only needs to talk to them at fringe meetings, or in bars or restaurants, quickly to realise that they, too, are far subtler and more interesting than they appear when addressing the conference.

alk about economics or the con-A stitution, social security or the family, and they seem formidably informed, open-minded people. Often they are involved in local politics, or charities, or struggling businesses. We in the liberal press tend to sneer about them and patronise them; but they know more about the world than most journalists do - this one

These may seem points against the Conservatives but they apply to the other parties, too. There have been numerous clever jokes, well made rhetorical patterns and good news clips over the past three weeks from Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the SNP. But I do not think I have

people, a place without shadows. The heard a single speech that really effect is surreal and it does not do the attempted to engage in a difficult, complicated debate, argue aloud and send the audience away thinking

harder than when they came in. Colleagues, who have been coming to party conferences for longer than the decade I have, say that in the Fifties and Sixties leading politicians felt it part of their duty to educate conferences. If so, it has been forgotten. Conferences now seem to diminish almost anyone who comes into contact with them.

They perform other functions. They get politicians on to the news, though the deluge of announcements and speechifying means most of what happens is not seen by the voters. They give the press a chance to judge the direction and morale of the parties; to find that the 1995 conference season has been excellent for Labour and less good, though not disastrous, for the Tories, is worth knowing. They kick-start the political year, help settle strategies, bind the party together, allow contacts to be made and friend-

ships to be renewed. They force ministers and shadow ministers to meet and talk to the humbler people who work for them in the country. They enable ambitious, young, unknown people to grab the national spotlight. They have glorious moments of real drama. They are surrounded by amiable dinners and jolly

parties. For all those reasons, it would be ridiculous to be against party conferences as such.

This is, rather, a bleat from the sidelines, a plea for politicians to rethink their attitude to these awful seaside weeks. The rhetorical tricks and phoney gimmicks of what are regarded as "good" conference speeches seem increasingly stale. They convey an impression of ministers and shadow ministers who are ignorant of their people, who feel that unless they keep it cheap and simple they will not be heard. It is not true. There is a hunger for seriousness

Who will deliver it? Well, there is one politician who has already made a refreshing un-speech, pleading for grown-up politics and sounding in public just like his private self.

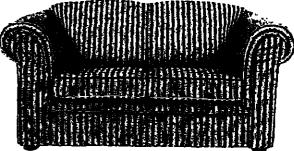
He said a year ago he wanted "no windy rhetoric, no facile phrases, no pious clichés, no shallow simplific-ation, no mock-honest, mock-familiar, ad-man's speak" and he derided "the glib phrases, the soundbites, the rit-ual conflicts" which obsess the political élite but bore normal people milling about elsewhere. That was John Major, speaking in Bournemouth last year. But in Blackpool, this year, we have had little else. He, too, has had to sit and grin through a sea of rubbish. When he performs today, I think we should judge him by his own

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

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Generation Why

hun, I'll teach those tories TO KICK ME OUT OF THEIR STUPID CONFERENCE WHAT ARE

I'M GOING TO HACK INTO THEIR AUTOCUE . I'LL GIVE JOHN BLOODY MAJOR A SPEECH TO REMEMBER.

.CLEAR BLUE WATER , LADIES AND GENTLEMEN , OH YES ... TRICKLING DOWN THE PAN OF THE NATION. ONE NATION CLEAN ROUND THE BEND! A TOILET FOR EVERY CHILD! NOW WASH YOUR HANDS... TAX THE POOR! JAIL ANYONE NOT WEARING A SUIT! FOREIGNERS? DON'T TRUST EM! VOTE FOR ME, I'M A TEAPOT. WIBBLE!





Artur Barbosa

Artur Barbosa wili be best remembered for the work that he Georgette Heyer, which he produced for 17 years, and those for George MacDonald Fraser's 1994. There is a quality in these illustrations that sets them apart from the run of the mill and they so ably helped to market. But Barbosa was an artist of many parts who would have succeeded even if his wish as a young man - that he might nev-er have to draw or paint again

- had been granted. Barbosa, as he liked to be called (he loathed modern trends towards familiarity), lived a life full of paradox. He was born in Liverpool, the son of a Portuguese vice-consul and a half-French mother. Though proud of his distinguished Portuguese ancestry, he was to those who knew him the quintessence of the English gentleman, and his first name was always anglicised to Arthur. During his schooldays at St Edward's, Oxford, and later, studying at Liverpool School of Art. Heatherley's and the Central School of Art, he impressed his teachers as the pupil most likely to excel. In fact it was his school contemporaries Laurence Olivier, Rex Harrison and Douglas Bader, at the time showing few signs of greatness, who were to become household

While still a student, Barbosa first successfully exhibited his work in London as a founder member of the Pandemonium Group. Other members were Nicolas Bentley, Eliot Hodgkin and Victor Reinganum. At the



Everybody's Weekly and the least enjoyed doing - his cover Radio Times and producing his illustrations for the books of earliest book covers for Radio Times and producing his several London publishers.

From 1930, his natural un-

derstanding of costume and an Flashman novels from 1969 to encyclopaedic knowledge of its history steered him towards designing for theatre. That year he designed for three concurgives a distinction to the books rent West End productions and during the next few years worked with some of the great names of intimate revue - André Charlot, Kenneth Duffield and Cecil Landau. It is probable that this was the work he most enjoyed, but his drawings were so ideally suited to the elegance of the 1930s that during the same period he illustrated for Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, the Sketch, the Bystander, Night and Day and the Queen (some of the best examples of a golden age of magazine design) as well as the leading advertising agencies and publishers.

After the Second World War, which he spent at the Ministry tuguese section), he returned to illustrating, producing fashion drawings for Moss Bros and starting his long association and friendship with Georgette Heyer. The very "Englishness" of Barbosa's work then became in demand in the United States and for 10 years he worked almost exclusively for American

The 1960s brought a major

change to Barbosa's career; through his friendship with Rex Harrison he became involved in interior decoration. He had always taken great pride in the work he had done in 1928 in the interior of St Andrew's Church, West Kirby, where he had designed the organ case, pew fronts and six-foot candlesticks. Nearly 40 years later, in 1966, he designed interiors for Harrison's house in Portofino, Italy, and a year later embarked on his most difficult and substantial task when he undertook the total refurbishment of Elizabeth Taylor's yacht, the Kalizma. He turned down the role he was of-

fered in the Taylor/Burton film of the moment Barbosa worked at his drawing board until a few months before his death, when he began to be troubled by poor eyesight.
Portraits of the Duke of Well-



FNAT

British Sherry labels won him a Golden Clio design award in America and designs for wine and whisky labels followed. He saw a certain irony in the fact that he was replacing a lifetime of drinking alcohol with an effort to help market it.

Outside his work, Barbosa was a character who might have stepped straight from the pages of Anthony Powell's Dance to the Music of Time. He would have been a perfect guest at Lady Molly's and utterly athome with a bottle and adoring female company in the early hours of the morning with ington and Edward Elgar for Dicky Umfraville.

In the mid-1930s, as a result of his obsessive interest in the royal families of Europe up to 1914, he formed a court with his friends, and once a year, resplendently dressed in uniforms designed by himself, a grand ball was held. Barbosa was the Grand Duke, Rex Harrison was his aide-de-camp and Cecil Beaton the court photographer. There are some remarkable Beaton photographs of such occasions. A more lasting legacy of Barbosa's obsession is a collection of original photographs

gether over a period of 40 years, probably the finest collection of its kind in existence. Barbosa was adored by women throughout his life. He married three times, but had no children. Despite a long-held belief that the ideal marriage was a contract for nine years, he leaves a widow, Isobel, to whom he was inseparably married for

Virgil Postfret Artur Ernesto Teixeira de Vasconcelos Barbosa, painter, illustrator and designer: born Liverpool 6 March 1908; twice

married; died 5 October 1995.

Foster was a true scholar, a scientist who worked among medical academics in fields which ranged from early work in classical botany and moved through manimalian cell biology to molecular cell biology. He was also a respected teacher, remembered with gratitude and affection by former students and

Charles Foster seemed desfined for experimental science from an early age. As a child, as well as a chemistry set (producing hydrogen, which ex-ploded) his parents bought him a small compound microscope. The 13-year-old Foster was fas-cinated by ciliates (protozoa with nair-like lashes) which he had discovered for himself gliding in the flower-vase water. He bought a Guide to Protozoa from the Natural History Museum, read it at night and learned their names - Euptotes, Loxodes, and so on, From

then on he was determined to be a biologist interested in cells. He was educated at St Olave's Grammar School then went to University College London, as a Marshall Scholar, to do a BSc in Botany with TD.
Hill and Professor Sir Edward Salisbury - a most stimulating department. His MSc research was on "Sub-cellular Elements in Bulgaria inquinans" (a fungus known as "witches' butter") and in 1938 he joined the Middlesex Medical School,

working with Professor J.H.
Woodger, the eminent
theoretical biologist.
During the Medical School's
wartime evacuation to Leeds, Foster began working on the pi-tuitary. He continued mammalian work at the Middlesex and was much influenced by Woodger, who taught a stringent approach to problems and also took Foster to study weekends with Karl Popper and Peter Medawar.

With a PhD in animal cytology Foster moved to St Mary's Hospital Medical School in 1947 to teach biology. Rather shy himself, he found it formidable to lunch with Sir Alexander Fleming, who was shy with strangers and limited his remarks to "yup" and "nope".
Foster's research was mam-

Charles Foster made an important contribution to the fundamental understanding of the cell biology of that very complex the pitnitary in Nature, the Journal of Endocrinology and Quarterly Journal of Microscopical Science, and was awarded

functions such as lactation, ovu- a London University doctorate of science for this work. These were studies investigating, for example, the changes in the pituitary cells associated with events in reproduction - coitus, pregnancy and lactation (in the rabbit) - to help work out which cells produced the controlling hormones that acted on the target glands, e.g. causing mammary glands to produce

In the 1970s he worked on Tamm Horsfall glycoprotem in the kidney and was most grateful to Professor Richard Creese and Professor Charles Michel at St Mary's, who enabled him to continue research and publishing in the 1980s, even after he had retired from his post in the

Medical School.
Roster regarded the teaching
of "real" cell biology as his major achievement, particularly the intercalmed BSc units he initiated at St Mary's which produced successful science-based medical researchers. His stu-dents worked with live cells, such as tissue cultures of Xenopus (the clawed toad) and used phase contrast-ciné and electron microscopes as well as learning histochemistry (the chemistry o living tissues). They visited other research institutes and re-ceived a serious grounding in scientific method

He also brought his students scholarly attitudes to learning and life, which were introduced into practical classes and long discussions after class - about mutual interests in music, poetry, art, Italy, the origins of ideas and arcane natural history such as the constant moveent of the Telegraph Plant (Desmodium gyrans). Students' interest in biology was aroused by his charisma, zest and warm enthusiasm. One former student said, "He gave us a grounding in integrity, so fundamental to medical education." Another (now a Professor and FRS) admitted he still had Foster's copy of John Donne's poems on

long-term loan". Charles Foster's achievements show the necessity for sympathetic "interpreters" of science for the future development of medical research, but they are unlikely to travel such a long road, from classical botany to molecular cell biology techniques, as he did. ly in endocrine studies and he

Professor Charles Foster Charles Foster did not leave St Mary's on his retirement from the Chair of Cell Biology in 1979 but moved downstairs into the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, writes Charles

> There he spent more than 10 years continuing research in collaboration with Pauline Alexander and Hubert Britton, first on attempting to dis-cover the cells in the kidney responsible for the secretion of Tamm Horsfall glycoprotein, and later on atrial natriuretic peptide, a hormone discovered by a Canadian research team in the early 1980s, which is released from cells in the heart and controls, among other things, the volume of the

Foster's real contributions during this period were more cultural and social. Both within the department and in the Medical School he befriended



new research students, postdoctoral fellows and lecturers, winning their confidence, while encouraging them to take a broader view of science,

philosophy and the arts. A quietly contented man. Foster was most fortunate in his second marriage in 1976 to his colleague Dr Anne Maddocks, who not only gave him support and affection but shared his expertise for botanising, and his enthusiasms for music, painting and Italy.

Charles Lewis Foster, cell biologist and botanist: born 2 September 1912; Demonstrator, then Lecturer in Biology and Histology, Middlesex Hospital Medical School 1938-47; Lecturer in Biology, St Mary's Hospital Medical School 1947-48, Reader in Biology 1948-69, Professor of Cell Biology and Histology 1969-79 (Emeritus); married 1949 Margaret Woodward (died 1973, two daughters); married 1976 Anne Maddocks; died 27 September

Elizabeth Jane Lloyd

Elizabeth Jane Lloyd found at Queen Anne's, Cavershan her way into the hearts of the and attended Chelsea School of was perhaps her natural generosity of spirit which made the terised by a spirit of common images she painted so irresistible to her buyers. She will be remembered for still-life paintings, crammed with flowers and objects, rendered with a seductive facility and investing everyday things with the

She was born in London in 1928 into an artistic and successful family. Her mother was a painter, but the family was particularly strong in the realm of architecture: her grandfather was W. Curtis Green RA, who designed the Dorchester Hotel, and her father, a distinguished architect in his own right, practised with Edwin Lutyens, her

British picture-buying public. It Art from 1946 to 1949 in those early post-war years characpurpose and enthusiasm. To get a space in the Monday lifeclass you had to set up your easel on Sunday. She studied under Robert Medley, Henry Moore and Ceri Richards, Fellow students were Elisabeth richness and presence of Frink, John Berger, Anthony cherished household goods. Rossiter and Jeff Hoare whom she married in 1952.

She went on to the Royal College of Art (from 1949 to 1952) studying under Carel Weight and Ruskin Spear and special-ising in mural design. While still a student, she undertook three major mural commissions at the Chelsea Pensioners' Rest Hall, the Tote Investors' Board Room and (the largest) godfather. She went to school for the National Farmers'

agriculture. In 1953 her first solo exhibi-

tion took place at the recently built Royal Festival Hall and she had work accepted for the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, where she was to show often in later years. She and Jeff Hoare started married life in a flat in Elm Park Gardens, Chelsea. Laurie Lee, the writer, lived underneath and from time to time gave vent to his displeasure at the boisterous behaviour of their growing family by thumping on the ceiling with a broom-handle. With two children, they moved to St Peter's Square, Hammersmith, in 1956.

From 1953 to 1955 she taught at the Crown Manor Boys' Club, Hoxton, and from 1962 to 1967 at the City Literary Institute. The years between were taken up by the cares of mothembraced, and a family which had now grown to four children. In 1965 she started teaching

of members of European and

Russian royal families from

on the foundation course at the Central St Martin's College of Art and Design. The foundation course was one of the limited areas in teaching which called for the traditional skills of painting and drawing such as she possessed. The diploma course at the same college had switched its orientation entirely towards abstract painting. Her teaching relationship with Central St Martin's continued for the rest of her life. She had been appointed head of the Portfolio Preparation Course just before her death.

Unlike many painters she was glad to expand her teaching activities. She relished human contact, working as visiting lecturer to such universities as had been brought up as a child, mixed exhibitions to which she lecturer to such universities as

as well as Cambridge College of Art, the Yehudi Menuhin School (1960-88), the Interlocken International Center, in New Hampshire (1970-75), the English Gardening School at the Chelsea Physic Garden and the Krishnamurti Schools in India and Brockwood Park, England. From 1987, she acted as tour tutor, often with a fel-

painting tours in India. India and its crafts occupied a special place in her painting, which favoured a strong, sometimes dazzling palette. Indian embroideries and artefacts em-bellished her house as well as her work. The house was particularly important to her. An 18th-century building on the Thames at Chiswick where she

low artist, Anthony Eyton, on

innovation. It was filled with paintings and objects, displayed in such a manner which evoked profusion and simplicity, the genius loci which was ever present. in her work. But she was equally happy to submit herself to the exacting discipline of scene painting for such films of the Eighties as Flash Gordon, Breaking Glass, The Mirror Crack'd and Chariots of Fire. In the Nineties, she published two books: Enchanted Circles (1991; on the art of making wreaths and garlands) and Still-life

Watercolour Painting (1994).
Her creative energy was undaunted by a punishing schedule of solo exhibitions, 19 from 1977, most recently at the Kew Gardens Gallery and Sally Hunter Fine Art, nor the many



Kingdom and abroad. Her painting retained the freshness of a young woman and her sudden and fatal heart attack seems tragically premature.

Sally Hunter Elizabeth Jane Lloyd, artist: born London 14 July 1928; married 1952 Jeff Hoare (three daughters, one son); died London 2 Octo-

Peter Williams

An editorial interpolation caused an error in my obituary for Peter Williams [7 October], writes John Gregory. The Metropolitan Ballet I referred to was not the Metropolitan in New York, but a small touring ballet based in London which was formed by Cecilia Blatch and Leon Hepner in 1947.

Among their dancers were Erik Bruhn, who became a star of American Ballet Theatre, and Svetlana Beriosova, later a ballerina with the Royal Ballet. John Taras, who had been in Europe with the De Basil Ballet. made his choreography Designs with Strings, which Peter Williams designed. After some two years of touring the provinces, the company folded.

Peter Williams's birthplace, Burton Joyce, is not in Cornwall but in Nottinghamshire.

Births. **Marriages** & Deaths

BIRTHS

AUSTIN: Born to Heather (née Roberts) and Gary, a son, Jack Nosh, on 11 October 1995. KENEALY: On Tuesday 3 October

1995, at Harrogate General Hospital, to Rosemary (nee Durley) and Paul, a daughter, Megan Isabella.

DEATHS

CARMALT: Dorothy, daughter of the late Canon and Mrs W. Hodgson, of Aston, died peacefully on 9 October 1995, in Sellywood House. Teacher at Low Moor Dudley Girls High School for Girls Edopaston. Advant wife of the Girls, Edgraston. Addred wife of the late Dr Hugh Carmalt MC, much-loved mother of Lyn Ankcom and Dr Martin Carmalt, grandmother and great grandmother. Will be greatly missed by all her friends. Service and missed by an our intentals, selvice and cremation at Lodge Hill Crematori-um, Birmingham, on Monday 16 Oc-tober at 12.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired for the Birmingham Rathbone Society may be sent to V. Morton and Sons Ltd. 218 New Road, Rubery B45 9JA by

Amouncements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARKIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adop-tions, Marriages, Denfis, Memorial ser-vices, Wedding anniversaries, In Memorian) should be sent in writing to Memorians) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I. Crusado Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 9171-293 2011 or funed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette assouncements (netices, func-tions, Fortherming marriages, Marriages) must be subsulted in writing (or faned) and are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra-They should be accompanied by a daytime relations of musics.

Birthdays Air Vice-Marshal John Allen-Jones,

86; Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, 62; Mr Roger Carrick, High Commissioner to Australia, 58; Mrs Edwina Currie MP, 49; Miss Laraine Day, actress, 75; Sir Denis Forman, former Director, British Film Institute, 78: Sir Leslie Fowden, former Director, Rothamsted Experimental Station, 70; Sir Roger Gibbs, chairman, the Wellcome Trust, 61; Rear-Admiral John Grant, 87; Mr Anthony Harris, ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, 54; Sir Michael Hutchison, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 62; Mr John Menzies, chairman, John Menzies, 69; Miss Marie Osmond, singer, 36; Air Chief Mar-shal Sir Frederick Rosier, 80; Mr Paul Simon, singer and songwriter, 54; Mr John Simpson, chief editor, the Ox-ford English Dictionary, 42; Miss Rosemary Anne Sisson, author and scriptwriter, 72; Baroness Thatcher, former prime minister, 70; Mr Vanunu, nuclear techni cian, 41; Mr Peter Vereker, UK Permanent Representative, OECD, Paris, 56; Sir Mark Waller, High

Anniversaries

Births: Mariotto Albertinelli, pain 1474; Sir James Thomas Knowies, ed-itor and architect, 1831; Lillie (Em-ilie Charlotte) Languy, actress, 1853; Mary Heurietta Kingsley, writer and explorer, 1862; Walter James Redfern Turner, poet, music critic and playwright, 1889. Deaths: Claudius L Roman Emperor, poisoned by his wife Agrippina 54; Nicolas de Malebranche, philosopher, 1715; Sir Henry Irving (John Henry Brodribb), actor, 1905; Walter Houser Brattain. physicist, and an inventor of the transistor, 1987. On this day: the foundation stone of the White House.

Washington, was laid by President George Washington, 1792; Green-wich was adopted as the universal meridian at the Washington Con-ference, 1884; Italy declared war on

Germany, 1943. Today is the Feast Day of St Coloman, St Comgan, St Edward the Confessor, St Fanstus of Cordova. St Gerald of Amillac. Saints Januarius and Martial and St Maurice of Carnoet. Receptions **HM** Government

Mr George Kynoch MP, Minister for

Industry and Local Government at the Scottish Officer, hosted a reception held yesterday in the Crombie Johnstone Hall, Aberdeen University, to mark the Conference of European Rectors. British Red Cross Mr Tony Blair MP, Leader of the Labour Party, and Mrs Cherie Blair, were the guests of honour at a re-

trial Society, London SW1, in aid of the British Red Cross's 125th Birthday Appeal. Mr Blair, Mr Mike Whitlam, Director-General, British Red Cross, and Mr John F. Gray, Director of Public Affairs, British Red Cross, were the speakers.

Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society

The joint Royal Academy of Engineering and Royal Society Lecture and Dinner was held yesterday evening at the Royal Society, London SWI. Mr Basil Butler gave the lecture. Sir Michael Aliyah, President, Royal Society, was in the chair, Sir William Barlow President, Royal Academy of Engineering, chaired the

Calls to the Bar

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Dogra-Bravelli, Ingrid Anne McClearer, Robert
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Gray's Inm

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The LAW REPORT has been held

Lectures

National Gallery: Mari Griffith, "Room 28 (ti): Rubens, Samson and Delilah", 1pm. British Museum: Jan-Peter Muller, "Earth from Space: the new geography", 1.15pm.

University College London, London WCI: Dr N. Long, "Metallocenyl Rings. Chains and Baskets", 1pm. Royal Institution of Great Britain, London W1: Dr James McQuaid. "Safety's Debt to Davy and Faraday"

Synagogue services

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 5.57pm.

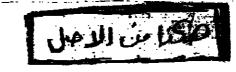
United Syungogness 0171-387 4308. Federation of Syungogness 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Syungogness 0171-380 1663. Reform Syungogness of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portugness Jews Compregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Syungogne (Masoreli: 0171-328 1026.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS
The Queen, accomponied by the Indic of Educacy, accomponied by the Indic of Educacy, accomponied by the Indic of Educacy, and Creekand and the new Reventuce Development at Chester le Street, County Durham, The Princess Storal, Produced, Save the Children Fund, attends a Fanatrianna Lungheon at Chilera Fund, attends a Fanatrianna Lungheon of Chilera Itali, Shellichel open the outfiers in Benacities Project at the Control Centre, Duncacter, at Proton, Saves – the National Dead-Bland and Rubella Association, opens a Day Service for young deadblind people and hangeless the Service North Region, Rotherham, South Yorksher, and at Patron, Minchinhampton Cepter for the Likerty, attends a Reception at Horschild House Minchinham of National Management of National Management of National Services of National Services and Company of National Services and Company of National Services of National Services of National Services of Services and Services

Changing of the Guard

CARLANGERING ON LARC APPLIANCE IT THE Household Cavalry Mounted F mounts the Queen's Life (stand at Horse Laure in Hartning Greensher Causeden Queen's Caured, at Bucklangham Palance hand provided by the Webs Guards.



CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

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Yesterday Day's eig Year Ago

Oil Brent \$ 16.01 -\$0.02 15.79 RPI

88.7 \$ Index

388.40 GDP

IN BRIEF

The Maxwell trial at the Old Bailey was taken up with legal ar-

gument yesterday, and the jury was not called. Kevin Maxwell

and his brother lan together with ex-Maxwell aide, Larry Tra-

chtenberg all deny conspiracy to defraud the pension funds by misuse of investments. Kevin Maxwell is expected to take the

Salomon brothers, the giant American investment bank, has has

"special conditions" imposed on it for the next 12 months by

the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA). The SFA has con-

chided that Salomon had been in breach of SIB Principle 9 in

that its control system had "failed to keep pace with the expansion

and complexity of its business". Although Salomon has corrected

these failings, the SFA has required the bank to provide spe-

cial monthly reports highlighting any problems with general ledger

accounts. Salomon's auditors will review these reports every quar-

British Aerospace has won three orders for seven Avro regional jet airliners. Turkish Airlines is buying four Avro RJ 70s, to be delivered in May next year. Two Avro RJ 85s are to be added to a previous order for five planes by Lufthansa City Airlines, while the Australian airline National Jet System has ordered one

Eurotunnel has appointed James Evans as director of railway

relations. He will play a key role in the talks with rail operators

BR and SNCF over renegotiating the railway usage contract,

Attempts to have disgraced futures trader Nick Leeson tried in

the UK faced collapse yesterday. Bondholders who lost more than £50m on the demise of Barings merchant bank have failed

in their attempts to have Mr Leeson repatriated to face eight

summonses alleging that he obtained money by deception and false accounting. The action, brought by the Barings Perpetual Noteholders Action Group, was due to be heard before City of London Magistrates on 30 October. The bondholders could

The Ford Motor Company intends to buy back around \$25n of its own preferred stock and is considering the sale of parts of

USL Capital and part of The Associates Corp, the non-auto-

244.36 -£0.16 245.73 Base Rates -

Maxwell trial hears legal argument

stand next week as the defence begins its case.

ter and pass on their findings to the SFA.

BAe wins orders for Avro jet

Avro RJ 70 for delivery by the end of the year.

vital to improving Eurotunnel's revenues.

still appeal to the High Court.

Leeson bondholder action fails

Ford to buy back £2bn in stock

Eurotunnel appoints railways chief

SFA imposes conditions on Saloman

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BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2548 fax 0171-293 2098

consumers will resist price rises.

recover in September as much

but he pointed out that ex-

RPI up 3.9%: Worst figure in three years dampens hopes of rates cut and adds £650m to benefits bill

Inflation setback for Chancellor

PAUL WALLACE Economics Editor

Inflation jumped to its worst level for three years last month, causing more problems for Chancellor Kenneth Clarke and dampening hopes that the next move in interest rates may be down.

Retail price inflation rose in September from 3.6 to 3.9 per cent, leading to a much bigger uprating in social security benedits next year than the Treasury had anticipated at the time of the last Budget. This will make it harder for Mr Clarke to offer substantial tax cuts.

The underlying inflation rate targeted by the Government which excludes mortgage in-terest payments - also rose sharply from 2.9 to 3.1 per cent, the first time it has been above 3 per cent for two years. The increase, which was greater than expected in the City, dampened hopes that the next

flation is particularly important because it is used as the basis for uprating social security benefits. According to the Department of Social Security, the Government will have to pay £2.8bn for inflation rather than the £2.15bn that had been pro-

jected in the last Budget. The increase of £650m is because the Treasury assumed last year a 3 per cent rate for the RPI in September 1995 and a 2.25 per cent increase for the Rossi index, which excludes most housing costs and is used to uprate means-tested benefits such as income support. This assumption proved over-optimistic, with the RPI at 3.9 per cent and the Rossi index rising

by 3 per cent.
The figures jolted interest rate expectations. A fall in the short sterling contract for December suggests that the City

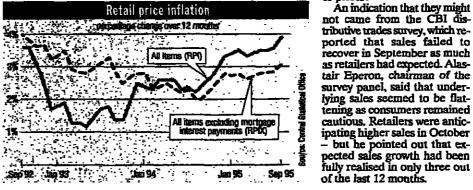
move in interest rates might be now thinks rates will be on which are now running at 4.4. also lifted margins. Clothing and down. hold till the end of the year. The September figure for in
Only a week ago, the contract 1 per cent as recently as April. per cent in the month. This Only a week ago, the contract implied a decline of almost a

quarter per cent. The main area of concern in the figures was the evidence of a push by retailers to rebuild margins. A quarter of the increase in the annual rate of inflation came from price increases in non-seasonal food,

"Supermarkets are increasing their margins at an astonishing

rate," said Ian Shepherdson, economist at HSBC Greenwell. He suggested that loyalty schemes were merely a device to hide higher prices.

Shops selling household goods, clothing and footwear



Despite the disappointing figure for September, the outlook for headline inflation alone contributed two-fifths of seems set to improve. The rethe monthly increase of 0.5 per cent cut in mortgage rates will affect the index from October. cent in the RPI in September. A vital question is whether At the same time, the rise in

mortgage rates which lifted the index last October will drop out The next couple of months' retail sales data will be of key impext month. Additional help may come portance, Mr Shepherdson said. Will consumers support highfrom a decline in seasonal food er prices?" inflation. A jump from 9.4 to An indication that they might not came from the CBI dis-13.4 per cent in September accounted for a quarter of the in-crease in the headline rate of tributive trades survey, which re-

> Kenneth Clarke certainly drew some comfort from this factor, saying that "today's in-flation figures are still being affected by the aftermath of a hot summer on food prices." The Chancellor said that inflation remained under control. He pointed to moderate growth in earnings and said that underlving competitive pressures in retailing remained "intense".

Takeover fever grips Grand Metropolitan

JOHN EISENHAMMER and JOHN SHEPHERD

Investors bet £30m yesterday on Grand Metropolitan, the international food and drinks colossus headed by Lord Sheppard, falling prey to a break-up bid, as big-deal fever gripped the inflation figures, which showed an unexpected rise to the highest level for more than two years, were shrugged off as expectations of several imminent nega-deals drove the FT-SE 100 index easily back through the 3,500 level, up nearly 50 points to 3.523.8.

for GrandMet centered on Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the American leveraged buy-out specialist that made its mark in 149.9 3.6pc 2.4 12 Oct - 2.8pc 4.1 23 Oct is - 5.75pc 5.25 the 1980s with the recordbreaking purchase of RJR Nabisco.

GrandMet, which owns Burger King, IDV, the spirits business and Pillsbury, was being pinpointed as a break-up target as the market saw unusually neavy action in options on the

.500 contracts, of a million shares each, in call options of the November series at 500p. This compared with a stock market cash price yesterday of 441p, lifted 14p by the rumours. The latest share price valued GrandMet at nearly £10bn. The prospect of a monster bid

ignited a market already raging with speculation of bids and counter-bids in the water and electricity sectors, and sentiment that the battle for Gartmore, the UK fund manager, is entering

the closing stages.
Shares in Gartmore, which has attracted a wide circle of potential suitors from the City, the

Continent and the US, were pushed up 13p to a new high of 289p as dealers convinced themselves that the contest will be all over within a week. NatWest Group and BAT Industries, the financial services and tobacco conglomerate, are among those strongly rumoured London market. The latest UK to be keen on adding Gartmore's £24bn of funds under management to their own

> In the slipstream of the Lloyds/TSB tie-up, the details of which were announced on Wednesday, the difficulties of other medium-sized banks remaining independent in the infinancial services sector fired the imagination of dealers.

Royal Bank of Scotland remains the market's favourite for the next banking skittle to fall, with its shares rattling up 19p to 502p. The emphasis placed by the Lloyds merger with the TSB on size, and the need for the largest possible countrywide branch network through which to deliver a broad range of financial products from mortes and insurance to saving and investment plans, has strengthened the view that a Dealers traded more than number of other banks and building societies will have to rethink their strategies and seek a future in consolidation.

Tracting was heavy in both Royal Bank of Scotland shares and those of Abbey National, as dealers focused on these two as a likely merger pair.

Memories of the effervescent deal days of the late 1980s are flooding back into the City as the corporate finance departments of investment banks are looking forward to a vintage

Takeover boom page 24

Pearson denies bid for Telegraph but likely to extend its TV interests



Poised for flight: The cast of 'Birds of a Feather', a SelecTV production

MATHEW HORSMAN

SelecTV, the independent producer, is in talks with an unnamed bidder that may lead to a takeover, the company confirmed yesterday.

City analysts speculated that Pearson, which publishes the Financial Times and Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail, could be buyers. The news came on a day of

intense rumours in the market, with the Telegraph group, Pearson and Mirror Group all the subject of bid speculation.

Pearson denied that it planned a bid for Conrad Black's 58 per cent stake in the Telegraph but refused com-Market report, page 27 | ment on speculation it might be

Bidder tunes into SelecTV

among the potential buyers of not agree a price. Mr Black had SelecTV. Senior executives at been willing to pay up to 470p the Telegraph did not return calls last night, but the market expects some activity today in Telegraph shares, and moved on from Pearson to Mr Black himself as a possible buyer.

A proposed offer by Mr Black's Hollinger Inc. to buy out minority Telegraph sharehold-ers failed earlier this year when independent directors could

been willing to pay up to 470p a share, compared to the close last night of 336, up 6 on the day. It was also rumoured Mr Black was preparing to exercise an option over 5 per cent of Telegraph shares held by Lord

Hartwell, for £30m. SelecTV makers of the hit series Birds of a Feather also operates its own cable channel and has a stake in Meridian, the ITV

broadcaster for the South and Southeast. It owns 20 per cent of UKTV, the highest bidder in the auction for Channel 5, due to be awarded within weeks. There is speculation that

Pearson, also in a consortium bidding for Channel 5, may be interested in SelecTV's production arm, to complement Thames and Grundy, its independent producers.

There were rumours early in the day that MAL, which holds 61 per cent of Meridian and is a partner of Pearson in its Channel 5 bid, might be interested in consolidating its Meridian holding. But insiders denied any involvement. The Pearson bid made more sense, according to analysis.

Three more leave Etam

TOM STEVENSON Deputy City Editor

The revolving doors at the troubled high-street retailer Etam continued spinning yesterday as three directors quit following the announcement of worse than expected interim losses. The company's shares, which have already halved over the past year, slipped a further 14p to close at 153p. The departures follow five

board this year, including that reasons we must be cautious of Sir John Nott, the former about the outcome of results for chairman. The latest resignations included Rodney East, the former managing director and Keith Miles, finance director.

Announcing a loss of £3.82m (£4.74m profit) for the six months to August. Etam warned that there had been no improvement in trading since the annual meeting earlier in the year. "Etam's annual results are greatly dependent on the other resignations from Etam's second half trading. For these

the full financial year.

That profits warning, the latest of several this year, followed a slump in sales from £113m to £107m. With high fixed costs such as rents in expensive locations, the inability to increase sales has devastated the group's underlying profitability. As a result the interim dividend was cut from 1.95p to 0.5p. Analysts expect another cut at the full year stage.

'Free Clowes now' plea A solicitor acting for Peter Clowes, the jailed financier Court later this year, Clowes was

serving 10 years for theft and fraud, appealed yesterday for his client to be freed early to spare the taxpayer further expense, writes Nic Cicutti Milton Firman, a solicitor at

Latimer Lee, the Manchester law firm, said that Clowes's legally-aided battle to overturn a Parole Board decision not to release him was set to cost at least £50,000. Even if the Parole Board's de-

still likely to be freed in the next year or so, Mr Firman claimed. "At a time when people are talking about the rising costs of le-gal aid it seems madness for the system to hand out cases like this on a plate," he said.

"The question that should be asked is whether it is in the public interest to keep someone a prisoner who is not a danger to the public, who has a loving wife and two small children and

a job to go to if he is freed." Mr Firman's comments follow a decision by the Court of Appeal earlier this week to allow an appeal by Clowes against the Parole Board decision.

Clowes was sentenced in February 1992. His £1m defence costs were paid for by the taxpayer. He has served four years making him eligible for parole but his application for early release was refused because the

Negative equity numbers start to rise again

NIC CICUTTI

The number of home-owners facing negative equity rose by more than 90,000 in the past three months, reversing the downward trend set in the first half of the year.

The increase raises to more than 1.1 million the households whose mortgages are greater than the value of their homes. This figure is more than 20 per cent higher than for the same

period last year. Average levels of negative equity remain constant, at about £7,000 for the country as a market, hopefully by targeting whole and £9,500 in London first-time buyers with enhanced

and the South-east, according benefits. Without some induced to a report published yesterday. Woolwich Building Society, which published the survey, said the blight on property val-

ues affected regions differently, with the North of England, the East Midlands. Yorkshire and Humberside hit hardest. Peter Robinson, managing director at Woolwich, said yesterday: "The rise in negative eq-

uity will maintain the feel-bad factor in the housing market. "The Chancellor has the opportunity in his November Budget to stimulate the housing stimulation to house prices during the quiet winter months, negative equity could be afflicting many more households by early spring."

A separate quarterly survey by Halifax Building Society showed house prices fell by 1 per cent on the previous three months. They were also down 2.6 per cent on the same period last year.

About three-quarters of people facing negative equity are first-time buyers, most of them having bought their homes be-tween 1988, the height of the boom, and 1991.

The total of negative equity in the UK now stands at about £7.8bn, some £600m up on the

previous quarter. Hilary McVitty, a manager at Woolwich, denied suggestions that mortgage lenders were seeking a return to a 1980s-style

house price boom. She said: "The figures on negative equity are a matter of concern, particularly at this point in the economic cycle."

Alliance & Leicester Building Society said yesterday it is to close 43 branches in the next six months, about 12 per cent of its network, with the possible loss of 200 jobs.

, 00 11		Scoure
The h	ardest-hit	regions
Negative equity for Region	third quarter 199 Average value (£)	5 % of owner-occupie
North	2,500	8
Yorks & Humber	1,600	5
East Midlands	4,700	· 9
East Anglia	8,400	9
Greater London	9,500	9
South East (exc Lond	ion) 9,500	9.
South West	8,000	10
West Midlands	4,000	2
North West	3,200	. 8
Wales	3,200	. 7
Sectional	· 0	· 1
Northern Ireland	. 0-	1

OSL Capital and part of the Associates Corp, the non-auto-motive financing businesses in its financial services group. Ford announced it was increasing the fourth quarterly dividend on its common and Class B shares by 13 per cent to \$0.35 cents a share, making the fourth rise since the first quarter of last year. Ministers given small firms overview

The Government has given responsibility for small firms to min-isters in each of 17 Whitehall departments that have links with business. The new ministerial network will to be co-ordinated by Richard Page, the small firms minister at the Department of Trade and Industry.

Takeover bids: A rash of activity generating huge corporate fees has led a scramble for office space in a boom reminiscent of the late 1980s

City firms profit from return of feelgood factor

JOHN EISENHAMMER and JOHN WILLCOCK

Boom-time beckons in the City again as corporate finance departments power towards a bumper year on a surge of big deals, and the property market enjoys a spurt of activity as expanding firms compete for bigger and better offices.

A year ago the corporate finance departments of City investment banks were struggling to make a contribution to group earnings. Now the whirlwind of takeovers and mergers is producing fat fees and expectations of even fatter bonuses. "1995 is already a vintage year, the cor-porate finance side is making money faster than it can count, one Rothschild excecutive said.

Acquisitions Monthly, the magazine, recently reported that the value of mergers and acquisitons deals this year is set to break the 1989 record.

We are back to the pace of the late 1980s, and it is pretty sure to carry on for some while yet," says a Deutsche Morgan Grenfell executive. This dramatic recovery in investment banking from the trough of last year, together with a spurt of overseas banks moving to boost their representation in

London, has knocked-on to renewed activity at the top end of the City property market.

Retail agents letting space in the City have just raised their top rents from £32.50 to £35 per square foot, while rent-free periods for top-quality developments are coming right back, according to Mark Lethbridge, an associate in Richard Ellis's

City agency department.
The decision by Deutsche
Bank to take 300,000sq ft next to its Morgan Grenfell investment bank subsidiary in Winchester House, has been followed by other smaller lettings. Allied Trust Bank has expanded its existing space in Cannon Bridge by 10,000sq ft,

Financial advisors on LLK disals (Jan-Sep 1995)

while Sanwa Bank has added 6,000sq ft at City Place House, said Mr Lethbridge.

All these deals have been for top-quality offices, reflecting the renewed confidence of investment banks boosted by better trading earnings and the big rewards for huge deals. In the just completed Lloyds-TSB merger, the two sets of main advisers, Baring Brothers and J. P. Morgan, are expected to earn over £6m apiece. Barings, which was bankrupted earlier this year before being rescued by ING of the Netherlands, is

table, thanks to big deals like Lloyds and Glaxo-Wellcome. Deal activity, which usually lags behind economic recovery, is now rapidly coming on stream. Unlike the late 1980s. which saw mainly leveraged bids powered by financial considerations, today's deals tend to be industrially driven, with consolidation across sectors, such as pharmaceuticals, food, the utilities and financial services. At £40.34bn, M&A deals in the UK during the first nine months soared past £13.65bn for the same period last year, and £25.27bn for the

whole of 1994.

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WE'RE ASOUT TO

likely to be among the M & A leaders in this year's league

> is banks already here, according to George Gillon, City partner with the agents Drivers Jouas. "Since the summer there has been a surge of people in the financial sector - investment banks and overseas representative banks - who want more space," said Mr Gillon. J Henry Schroder Wagg, the

corporate finance arm of Schroders, has recently taken an additional 40,000sq ft in TSB's old head office in Milk Street, he said. American investment

This has meant organic bank JP Morgan had taken rowth by UK banks and overmore space in its Ludgate of growth by UK banks and overfices while UK merchant bank Close Brothers has moved to a new head office.

Hitting the right number: Credit Suisse's dealing room in the City

Mr Gillon said that information providers and mediumsized legal practices were also benefiting from the recovery in City business generally. Thom-son Financial Services is taking more space in the Aldgate offices it moved to last year, while at least four law firms are looking for space.

The City of London Corporation is fearful that it will lose

the large overseas investment banks currently looking for space at Canary Wharf, since there is an acute shortage of modern, large office buildings in the City. In particular, the investment banks seeking to move are looking for premises with football field-sized spaces for dealing floors. There is a surfeit of poor-grade buildings, which will probably never be let again and urgently need redeveloping.

Mr Lethbridge pointed out that there is 6.36 million square feet of vacant office space in the City, or 9.5 per cent of all existing office buildings. This compares to just 2 per cent in the boom years of the late 1980s and up to 16 per cent in the depths of the recession. Less than half this vacant space consists of buildings that

would be considered "grade A". Mr Gillon said. Nevertheless the German banks that together have decided to make London the home of their investment banking operations are determined to stay in the City - even if this means building their own offices, he said. The trailblazer was Deutsche

Bank in the summer. It decided to build its own 300,000sq ft head office next to its recently acquired subsidiary Morgan Gren-fell in Winchester Avenue. Its determined hiring to build up the investment banking operations -some 80 people have been taken on since the beginning of the year, many from Warburgs - has contributed to another pite-

nomenon, a surge in pay. Rival banks are beginning to complain vociferously of the way the rash of cheque-book poaching is helping to push up remuneration levels.



Photograph: Glynn Griffiths

Provident reveals £25m takeover inducement About £145m of GA's mon-whose fund is worth £8,000 will ey goes towards paying for 10 have £100 added to their acper cent of the future profits count overall. NIC CICUTTI More than 200,000 policyholders with Provident Mutual were from the Provident Mutual life The company said yesterday fund, using calculations detold yesterday how much they

will get in return for agreeing to a takeover by General Acci-

They were among investors in the life assurance company based at Stevenage, Herts - sent details of the £25m bonus pay-ments agreed with the Scottish insurer last month.

General Accident's offer is part of an overall £170m deal aimed at adding Provident Mutual to its own group of companies. Before it can do so, it 75 per cent of Provident's policyholders voting at a general meeting in November. Proxy votes are also allowed.

scribed as reasonable by Tillinghast, consulting actuaries.
To sweeten the deal, investors-

in a range of Provident Mutual life and pension policies will receive 0.4 per cent per year; or slightly more in some cases, of the total amount they have so far saved, including investment gains. Those who have annuities with Provident Mutual will get an increase in annual retirement income of 0.5 per cent.

profits endowment started in 1985 will have £75 added to their policy over three years. A personal pension plan holder

that, although a one-off, the payment would be included in the calculation of future bonuses and was therefore likely to increase over the lifetime of that policy. The full amount will only be paid if the policy is maintained until December 1998.

Of the total of 500,000 policyholders, about 300,000 are not classed as members and will not be in line for a payout from General Accident

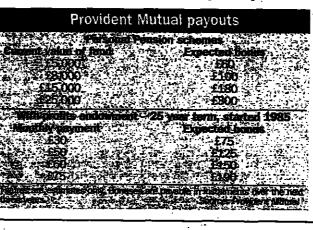
A spokesman for Provident In practice, someone paying Mutual said: "One important someone paying as a month into a 25-year with ments are for our with-profits savers, our unit-linked policyholders will also gain. "They will benefit from the

fact that charges levied on most funds will not go up beyond the cost of living for 10 years. There will also be a cap on discretionary expenses for unit-linked policies.

This is significant, because the charges levied by the com-pany on policyholders funds, both with-profits and unitlinked, are well below the in-

dustry average already."

He added that unless the deal with GA is agreed, Provident Mutual would not be able to attract new business profitably, leading to a cut in returns for policyholders



Bancorp's value gets a boost

JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

Nat West Group's negotiations to sell its US retail banking operations were boosted yesterday by a 41 per cent rise in pre-tax profits at Bancorp to \$337m (£225m) for the first nine months from \$240m a year before. NatWest is looking for more than £2.5bn from the sale of the New Jersey-based Bancorp group.

income for the nine months to 30 September, at \$185m compared with \$215m in the same period of 1994. The bank said the fall reflected the inclusion of a full Federal income tax provision in 1995 following the utilisation of tax-offsetting benefits in the previous three years.

Bancorp posted lower net

John Tugwell, Nat West Bancorp's chairman and chief executive, who is the highest-paid man in the group, earning last year a total of £1.5m, said: These achievements combined with our expanded marketplace presence have enhanced the value of the NatWest Bancorp franchise."

NatWest has decided to take advantage of the current spate of big retail banking mergers and takeovers in the US to cash in on Bancorp at what it hopes will be a full price.

Exchange holds up pay rules

PETER RODGERS Business Editor

The Stock Exchange yesterday bowed to pressure from industry and delayed full implementation of the Greenbury Code on top pay, because of difficulties in framing some of the rules.

Provisions to force companies to seek shareholder approval for longsterm incontinuation.

long-term incentive schemes

were among those put off until

next year for further consultation Other measures delayed were the new rules that phase the granting of options, a ban on the issue of options at a discount, and the recommendation that the full value of

directors' pension entitlements is disclosed. The decision follows protests from companies about what some claim was the high-handed way the exchange put out draft changes to the listing rules - the Yellow Book - at the end of July, inviting comments on relatively

minor variations only.

The exchange said it had received 170 replies to the consultative document and had revised its proposals to a sile at the consultative document and had revised its proposals to a sile at the consultative document and had revised its proposals to a sile at the consultative document and had revised its proposals to a sile at the consultative document and the consultative its proposals to reflect them.

As well as the details of some new rules being delayed until the first quarter of next year, those that have been agreed will not now come into effect until 31 December, rather than the

planned date of the end of this month, to give companies time to familiarise themselves with the requirements.

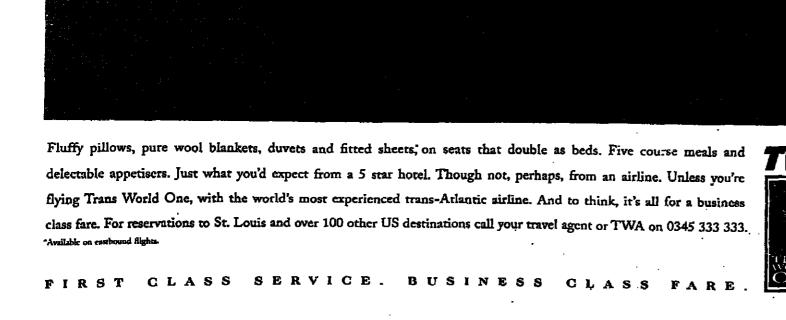
The new rules that have been agreed - and published as an official revision of the Yellow Book - force companies to increase the disclosure of directors' earnings, as the Greenbury

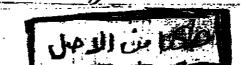
committee recommended. They also oblige companies to make a statement of compliance with the Greenbury recommendation that remuneration committees should be given a new independence - a sensitive area because the Greenbury report could lead to the creation for the first time of a separate class of directors on company boards, with their

OWD responsibilities. Company law states that all directors have equal responsibility for running a company. One company chairman said the changes could amount to the first step towards establishing supervisory boards in Britain.

The rules in the revised Yellow Book also oblige com-panies to make a statement that full consideration has been given to the best practice provisions on remuncration policy, service contracts and compensation.

Another consultative document will be issued at the end





"If Mr Clarke is to do more than tease the country when he delivers the Budget, he had better be right

about inflation being

under control"

Clarke's luck with prices may be running out While the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, "couldn't possibly comment" on the Forget all the talk about synergies. It is defusion to believe they can possibly exist between water and electricity companies. If

near certainty of a tax-cutting Budget, he was quick to say something at yesterday's Conservative Party conference about the extremely disappointing inflation figures for September, which he blamed largely on the ffect of a hot summer on food prices. Inflation, he claimed, remained under control. If Mr Clarke is to do more than tease the country when he delivers the Budget, he had better be right. Lower than expected inflation has been vital in allowing him to squeeze public spending plans. It has meant that wage inflation has remained low, mak-

ing the public sector pay-bill freeze much sier to implement. The cost of getting it wrong is graphically illustrated by the impact of the September inflation figure on social security expenditure. With inflation at almost 4 per cent rather than the 3 per cent projected at the time of the last Budget, the Chancellor now has to find an extra £650m to uprate social security benefits to take account of inflation. If inflation continued to worsen, this could lay the ground for a pick-up in pay inflation next year, which would knock through to the public sector.

It is, however, still too early to conclude that the game is up on retail price inflation. which has tended to surprise this year by coming in below expectations. Although a rise in seasonal food prices accounted for a quarter of the jump in the inflation rate, the probe very far to find out why.

main drive came from an attempt by retailers to rebuild their margins.

We have been here before. So far, consumer resistance to higher prices has largely prevailed. The Confederation of British Industry's distributive trades survey for September suggests that consumers are contining to punish retailers for their attempt to push up prices by withholding their custom.
For all his slip-ups, Kenneth Clarke has been
a lucky Chancellor so far. His luck may hold but he will be watching next week's retail sales figures as auxiously as anyone.

North West's strategy is seriously flawed

It is always possible that Sir Desmond Pitch-ler, chairman of North West Water, will prove the rest of us wrong but it seems un-likely. While there have containly been ikely. While there have certainly been more seriously flawed takeovers than North West Water's bid for Norweb, there have not been many in the £1.8bn league. The best that North West shareholders can expect from the high price being exacted for this Lancastrian folie de grandeur is that one and one will end up equalling two; much more likely it will equal a good deal less. The ease with which North West has hoovered up nearly 30 per cent of Norweb's share capital shows the market's strong preference in this case for cash over shares. You do not have to

there is commercial merit to this takeover it is to do with cost-cutting, cash flow and tax, not industrial logic. Deals done purely for tax reasons are nearly always bad ones; the tax rules can be changed. As for the match between the cash generating attrib-utes of an electricity company and the cash needs of a water company, it remains to be seen how this will survive the effects of the

last review of electricity tariff controls.

That leaves cost-cutting, where the scope is clearly considerable. North West's record, however, hardly inspires confidence that it is up to the task. The spanking new £350m computerised billing system North West is so keen to promote, is, in fact, nothing to boast about. It is an IT white elephant with few redeeming features. Like all IT, it is unlikely to be easily adaptable to dealing with the entirely different and more complex billing system that is used by the electricity industry. The scope for costly cock-ups in putting in place the combined facilities anagement company is substantial.

To make matters worse, North West may have been forced to overpay for Norweb. It is to be hoped that the now almost univer-sal perception of this deal - that it is being driven primarily by fees and ego – is wrong. Sir Desmond and his team are going to have to work hard to overcome it, however. A windfall utilities tax, by this Government or

Why no word on the nuclear sale?

Few would disagree that nuclear and rail are the dogs of the Government's privatisation programme. One barked with joy this week, after Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, amounced the Railtrack sale would definitely go ahead in the spring. The other stayed conspicuously silent. Not a word of the nuclear ale was mentioned in the conference speech by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade nd the minister responsible. This could be no more than an oversight,

or perhaps it reflects the Government's rough indication a few months ago that it

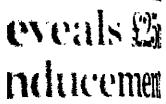
would like the nuclear sale to go ahead next summer. Why say more at this stage? On the other hand, if Sir George dared boast at the party conference that he was determined to oush through something as unpopular as the rail sale - once dubbed the poli tax on wheels why is Mr Lang not barking as loudly?

The nuclear companies are unaware of any change of timetable and perhaps there is none, as yet. The sale of British Energy, as it is called, requires a complex merger of two firms and the separation from the organisation of the Magnox reactors, under terms still being argued through with British

ment, too, is wondering whether it can pull off the nuclear sale? If it slips as little as three months into the autumn the risk of becoming snarled up in an election campaign will be enormous. The market will not be in the mood to buy something so suspect at pollwatching time, and the less the electorate has to be reminded of nuclear power at the hustings the better.

Railtrack is now looking rather different. The City remains deeply sceptical about the company, which is reliant for its income on indirect subsidies funnelled through the train operators that use its services. But Sir George really means to push it through. As the seller, the Government has the whip hand. Not only can it adjust the price and the debt levels to smarten up Railtrack for City consumption, it could also, if pressed, offer guarantees against the costs of changes in regulation and taxation, to offset some of the uncertainty Labour is generating with its threats of renationalisation. Such pledges have already been made to bidders for rail

franchises.
The odds are that Railtrack will go through, albeit on terms so generous that it will make even the great regional electricity company giveaway look reasonable by comparison. But it is going to take the reelection of John Major to get nuclear into





Better off: John Roberts, Manweb chief executive, who gains over £1m from Friday night owned or had actermination of a two-year rolling contract, share options and shares Photograph: UPPA ceptances in respect of 61 per

Manweb directors enjoy £3-4m payoff bonanza after takeover

Industrial Correspondent

Directors of Manweb, the regional firm taken over last week by Scottish Power after a fierce battle, left the company with payoffs estimated to be worth between £3m and £4m. The main beneficiary is thought to be John Roberts, Manweb's chief executive, who gains more than £1m from termination of his two-year rolling contract, share options and shares.

As the final chapter of Manweb's struggle closed, Texas Energy Partners withdrew its bid for another regional firm, Norweb, after a knockout £1.8bn bid on Wednesday by rival North West Water. Texas is now believed to be preparing to launch a fresh bid for another electricity

Scottish Power, which by last

cent of Manweb's shares, has replaced Mr Roberts with Mike Kinski, one of its own directors. Ian Robinson, Scottish Power's chief executive, becomes chairman of Manweb.

Mr Robinson called on all remaining Manweb shareholders to accept the £1.1bn offer worth £9.90 per share - which has now been recommended by the outgoing board. But the Scottish group is thought to be surprised at the amount of money it has had to pay to the former directors of the electricity firm.

City analysts continued to speculate over which electricity company would be the next to fall. Texas Energy, a part-nership between Houston Industries and Central South West, is known to have a shortlist of favoured targets. One industry source said: "They will analyse their options. The pres- Norweb, which at one point had ter today.

gional firms are a dying breed. They are becoming extinct."

Texas Energy said: "North West Water's further increased offer valued at £11.70 is at a level where we see no merits for our shareholders to compete for Norweb. We wish the shareholders, customers and em-

The pressure to act is that these companies are a dying breed

ployees of Norweb and North West Water well."

Tom Shockley, co-chairman of Texas, said that the partners continue to believe in the rationale underlying the bid for sure to move is that these re- been favoured by the electrici-

ty firm's board. The Takeover Panel gave Texas Energy permission to withdraw without having issued its offer document, which industry sources said will allow it more flexibility in coming back with a different bid.

Shares in London Electricity jumped by 29p to £9.27 as City analysts singled it out as the likeliest alternative for the US group or for a bid from Thames Water. There was also speculation that Yorkshire Electricity could fall prey to either Texas or to GEC.

North West Water, whose £11.70 per share offer has been criticised in the City as "very overpriced", vesterday took its stake in Norweb to 29.9 per cent. The company will seek shareholder approval for the acquisition at an Extraordinary General Meeting in Manches-

Unions attacked the plans to Mergers Commission.

merge North West with Norweb, predicting that thousands of jobs will go. Unison, the public sector union, plans to lobby the EGM, dressed as "fat cats" under the banner: "Public service not private sleaze".

A union spokesman said that the takeover would benefit only directors and large shareholders rather than customers. North West has admitted that the takeover will not feed through in lower bids for water customers for several years.

One City analyst warned of the regulatory and political risks facing the enlarged group, which will now be subject to price controls and scrutiny by two watchdogs, Offer and

Earlier this week Jack Cunningham, Labour's trade and industry spokesman, demanded the entire electricity industry be referred to the Monopolies and

Education News says, "It's radically different

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Mensa says, "It's revolutionary." The Daily Mail

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Daiwa to close trust arm in New York

RICHARD LLOYD-PARRY

The embattled Daiwa Bank has decided to liquidate one of its New York subsidiaries, as the Japanese government struggles to distance itself from the scandal of the bank's huge losses on the New York bond market. According to sources quoted

by the Kyodo news agency yes-

terday, the bank's US trust arm, Daiwa Bank Trust, will be closed down and its business transferred to other Daiwa branches. Between 1984 and 1987 two employees of the company in-curred losses of \$97m, which were finally written off in September last year. They came to light only this month during investigations into a separate bond scandal at the parent bank's New York branch, where a se-nior dealer, Toshihide Iguchi, racked up losses of \$1.1bn during 11 years of illegal trades.
The US authorities are in-

vestigating both cases on the

suspicion that Daiwa may have

deliberately concealed the losses from banking regulators. Last night the director-gencral of the Japanese Ministry of Finance's International Finance Bureau, Eisuke Sakakibara, conceded for the first time that senior Daiwa personnel may have acted improperly in keeping the losses hidden for so long. "I was deeply disturbed by the way the bank reported the Daiwa Trust business to us," he said, "because it does suggest some involvement on the part

of the management." The affair is very embarrassing to the Ministry of Finance, which is struggling to rebut suggestions that it colluded with Daiwa in concealing Mr Iguchi's fraud. The former Daiwa chairman, Akira Fujita, visited the ministry's banking bureau on 8 Jugust and said the bank was vestigating the losses.

In the days following this meeting, Daiwa actively increased its funding operations, in an apparent attempt to cover its losses. But the first that the US Federal Reserve knew of the problem was on 18 September. | Party over the past two years,

Montagu to pay £170m in B&C settlement

JOHN WILLCOCK Financial Correspondent

Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank owned by HSBC, is to pay £160m plus £10m costs in an out-of-court settlement to the administrators of British & Commonwealth, the crashed financial conglomerate built up by John Gunn in the 1980s. This represents the UK's

biggest single payment on record to creditors of a bust company. Sir William Purves, chairman of HSBC, intervened personally to engineer a settlement of the complex "Quadrex" litigation which has dragged on for

The deal clears the way for a payout by the administrators of a further £227m, representing 15p in the pound to creditors of B&C Holdings and 5p in the pound to those of B&C Group

The administrators, Stephen Adamson of Ernst & Young and Peter Phillips of Buchler Phillips, are in the process of distributing a total of £1.25bn.

The biggest creditor is Law Debenture Corporation, which is trustee to a number of pension fund investments. Others owed large sums include Bar-clays, Midland, Royal Bank of Scotland. Credit Lyonnais and Chase Manhattan

aborted sale of B&C's moneybroking division to Quadrex in

The case concerned the

connected with B&C, agreed to Hill Samuel. Quadrex had since

sell the money-broking side to Qaudrex, then run by American entrepreneur Gary Klesch. Following the collapse of stockmarkets in October 1987 Quadrex pulled out of the deal, and B&C then sued the company and the adviser on the deal, Samuel Montagu. B&C claimed that the merchant bank had underwritten the deal, while the bank denied this.

B&C then lost £500m over the disastrous acquisition of Atlantic Computers - still the subject of litigation. B&C went into administration in 1990 with debts of £1bn. Mr Phillips was appointed co-administrator and took over the legal case against £600m.

collapsed, leaving nothing to sue. Yesterday's settlement was welcomed by Mr Phillips as "brilliant news" but leaves a number of remaining problems. Mr Gunn is still facing disqualification proceedings as a director by the Department of Trade and Industry. And the administrators are fighting a £150m legal claim by the Inland Revenue concerning the sale of

Telerate by B&C in 1985. The administrators are also suing BZW, the investment bank owned by Barclays, and Spicer & Oppenheim, an accountancy firm now part of Touche Ross, for well over



Mr Gunn, now no longer John Gunn: still facing DTI disqualification proceedings

Unipart in £2m tax scheme

Unipart, the car spares and components company, put almost £2m into special accounts so directors could avoid likely tax rises on high earners should the Labour Party be elected, it emerged last night.

The money was put aside six days before the 1992 general election, and was drawn upon by the directors over the next three financial years, ending in March

Unipart, which has paid

£80,000 to the Conservative

reintroduced because Tony Blair was not promising to hit high earners. Other senior staff were also believed to have been granted similar schemes as a hedge" against the election of a Labour government.

The schemes were not uncommon at other companies, and were reported in the Unipart accounts, though the reasons were not given. But at a time of increasing concern about directors' remuneration, news of the Unipart schemes could come at a sensitive time. Shareholders are said to be

pany's former owners, Rover, thought to be around £300m. The bid has been rebuffed, but a higher one is now expected.

Unipart said that since the Conservatives were re-elected, no-one benefitted from the arrangements. The four directors were chief executive John Neill, managing director Frank Hemsworth and two others. Tony Mourque and Muir Moffatt. Mr Neill currently earns £490,000 a year, and the others between £190,000 and £330,000 according to the latest annual

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Etam wearing its shaky look

Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Etam's shares have already halved over the past year, so yesterday's 15p fall to 152p was a clear indication of the market's growing concerns about the womenswear man-ufacturer. Having ditched most of its board and spelled out a four-point "programme for change" it would be tempting to see the company as another retail recovery story. Perhaps - our advice to bargain hunters remains to think twice.

Half-year losses of £3.85m included a one-off £2.98m reorganisation charge but, even stripping it out, there was a £660,000 loss from sales of £107m, compared with last year's £5.5m return from sales of £113m. While the company is focusing on reducing costs and increasing efficiency, the element of the profit equation that really matters - taking shoppers' mon-

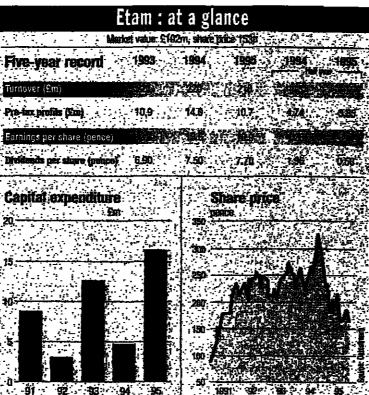
ey - is heading the wrong way fast. Etam's four-part plan includes establishing a strong management structure, beefing up its tired product lines and improving the appearance of the stores, rationalising the information technology and management reporting systems, and cutting costs. If that sounds a little like rebuilding the whole business, it is.

What worries analysts, however, is that, unlike say Laura Ashley. Etam has never been a particularly badly run business. It is not clear that there is enough scope for variable cost savings to make a serious

The costs that really do need to be reined in are, unfortunately, fixed. Like Ratners, Pentos and Next in its darkest hour in 1991, Etam suffers from a worryingly high ra-tio of rent to sales, an overhead it can do little to reduce while continuing to trade.

The only way of reducing the ratio is to increase sales. The only way of doing that is to redefine Etam's target audience away from cash-strapped young working girls who have traditionally bought their office clothes from the shop and are now taking their custom to more exciting outlets. Next is back as a serious competitor, as is BhS, which is taking business away and making pricing strategies extremely difficult to judge.

Etam was frank about prospects yesterday. There has been no improvement in trading since the last of this year's string of profits warnings and the signs are that pre-tax profits, £10.2m last year, might be as low as £2m this time. With a sharply cut interim dividend pointing to a big reduction at the full-year stage, the shares don't even have any yield support. Despite their precipitous decline over the past 12 months they have further to fall.



hancing in a full year. A reorganisa-

tion should see margins, now around 7 per cent, lifted closer to the group

More of a disappointment in the half

year was the heavy pumps business, which saw profits dive 35 per cent on

sales down 39 per cent. Management

blames the timing of sales and tech-

nical specification changes by its Far Eastern customers, but with record or-

der books and recent strong trading it

is cautiously optimistic of making up

the Radicon industrial gearbox man-ufacturer, is responding well to the in-

troduction of new ranges and a £3m

investment programme will double ca-

£132m. Added protection is derived

from Brown's lessening dependence on

Future group sales are almost com-

pacity over the next 12 months.

Another historic under-performer,

the lost ground in the second half.

verage of over 10.

Future set fair at David Brown

David Brown, once better known for its tractors and Aston Martin sports cars, is today rapidly re-establishing the engineering business on which it was founded in the last century. The formerly family-owned company owes its renaissance to the 1990 buyout that brought in two former FKI executives

to lead the management of the group.
The record since then has been impeccable, with profits rising from £3.85m in 1991 to £12.5m last year, and half-way results to July show no sign of any let-up - the pre-tax figure is up

15 per cent to £6.57m. Despite the rights issue at 205p that accompanied May's move to mop up the remaining David Brown familyowned engineering companies, underlying earnings per share have moved up 12 per cent to 7.4p. The the domestic market, which has been the four companies will be earnings en- just 16 per cent now - just as well, as

the latest industry survey points to a further slowdown in growth. Profits of £15m before an expected

£1m reorganisation provision this year would put the shares, unchanged at 220p, on a prospective multiple of just under 14. About right.

Tunnel is a black spot for BAA

BAA confirmed the perversity of mar-kets yesterday, rising 13p to 482p on worse-than-expected September traffic figures and a profits downgrade from UBS, the broker. As usual it has made sense to sell on the expectation of bad-

news and buy once it is confirmed.

Actually, the 3.4 per cent rise in passenger numbers in September compared with the same month last year disguised strong growth from most of the routes using BAA's seven airports. The fly in the ointment was European flights, which grew by only 1.2 per cent, clobbered by the popularity of the Channel Tunner's rail routes to Paris and Brussels.

As a result, UBS cut its pre-tax fore-cast for the year to March by £20m to £410m. It wiped a similar amount off the following year's forecast, now pencilled

The shares bounced partly out of relief that the traffic numbers and downgrade were no worse. Over the past three months, the shares have underperformed the rest of the market by 7 per cent. Over the past month they have slipped almost a tenth from 532p, lag-

ging the market by a similar margin. Long-term, the outlook is still bright for the airport operator cum retailer. It enjoys highly reliable income from both its main activities, volumes are likely to remain buoyant as the airlines fight tooth and nail for market share, slashing prices in the process, and BAA's market

remains attractively wealthy and captive. A large slug of the company's income comes from duty-free retailing, where it enjoys gross margins of perhaps 70 per cent. It is little wonder that the shares have been such strong performers over a longer time frame.

pletely underwritten by order books now standing at an all-time high of On a prospective price/earnings ratio of 14 to March 1997, the shares stand at a small premium to the rest of the market but are much less highly rated than company is holding to its forecast that cut from 70 per cent five years ago to usual. After their recent weakness they

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

Is there life after a hedge fund fortune?



The sudden retirement of Michael Steinhardt, the hugely wealthy hedge fund manager, hasn't exactly shaken Wall Street to its foundations. The portly 54year-old financier has been threatening to "do something important with his life for the last 15 years. The

can do it without making a mess of it. While Mr Steinhardt finds little difficulty in making lorry-loads of money (in-vestors in the world's third-

question on the lips of Man-

hattan's clite is whether he

largest hedge fund have seen a return of 24.3 per cent a year over the last 28 years), he has struggled with his other pursuits. He last retired 17 years ago, travelling to Israel to cultivate his spiritual life.

There he began collecting antique synagogue donation boxes and returned to the US with more than 100 of the icons. Tragically, many of them proved to be fake. Attempts to provide a bird sanctuary on his estate for

the American steamer duck were equally unsuccessful. He built the lake. He built the island. But the ducks showed not the slightest interest in landing there.

The jury is still out on his ability to cultivate flowers. However, Brooklyn botanists remain eternally grateful for the \$3m he donated to the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens.

Whatever he decides to do. New York is betting he will be back. Soros could do worse than put the Quantum Fund into the action.

The money continues to roll in at Baring Brothers (they will not countenance the ING prefix). The corporate finance arm will earn £6m from its work on the Lloyds Bank/TSB merger. Together with the fees from the Glaxo/Wellcome deal, this puts it up at the top of the mergers and

acquisitions league. Will any of this money go to bondholders still owed £100m? "Er, probably not," mumbles an M&A man.

The fragile ceasefire in Birmingham is over. The battle between private client stockbrokers for this frontier territory crupted again this week then the office of BWD Rensburg was raided by WIliams de Broe. There were no survivors. This is the second de Broe offensive in as many months. It also captured Bikuben in Wolverhampton.

Don't be surprised if the Labour Party suddenly pops up on the share register of National Westminster Bank. Douglas Hurd starts his new job as deputy chairman of NatWest Markets on Monday and his service contract will be available

One of the more interesting nuggets to be unearthed will be the salary payed to the former Foreign Secretary. Unhappily, the much-sought-after document will only be available to

As yet no information is available on Mr Hurd's new office, other than that it will be on the prestigious ninth floor. Details on the colour of the carpets, type of desk and that sort of thing are not being divulged. Mr Hurd took his non-

executive seat on bank's main board on Wednesday.

The Rensburg defections appear to have been sparked by the sudden departure of top dog Roger Mills. There followed an "either he stays or we go" ulumatum from the troops. He didn't and

neither did they. But the bloodshed does not stop there. Brown Shipley has defected to Harris Aliday and Greig Middleton is looking to repair an 11-man hole following a defection to Brewin Dolphin. Oh, and Henderson Crosthwaite is looking to start up.

Richard Holloway, linguist, cricketer and crstwhile mouthpiece of the recently swallowed SG Warburg, has found a home with the Maitland Consultancy. But the news has not being greeted warmly at Lowe Bell, the agency that took over the PR for the enlarged SBC-Warburg. "It's a bit like the Prince of Wales becoming a warden in the Royal parks,

Some friction possibly? Allies point out that Angus Maitland's firm has some very good clients, including Mercury Asset Management, the SBC Warburg fund man

Yesterday's conflagration at the headquarters of Rupert Murdoch's Australian newspaper operations - coming so shortly after dire warnings on the rising cost of newsprint - is nothing more than a coincidence, we can report. Fire officials said there were no suspicious circumstances.

The great man watched the blaze from the safety of a car park, having stayed long enough "to make sure the staff were OK."

Time Products in good tick

MAGNUS GRIMOND

Pavid Styles ((

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Elanc (1)

Todor (1)

Time Products, the watches and handbags distributor, yesterday painted a rosy picture of the future as it reported a strong opening half to the year. The chairman, Marcus Mar-

1.78m (1.25m) 0.04m (-0.19m) 0.1p (-0.6p)

future with confidence as the

group continued to focus on brand enhancement and concentrate its efforts on areas that would provide long-term growth for the company. The luxury watch operations

		• •	•
COMPA	YY RESULT	S	
Turnover £	Pre-tax £	# \$	Dividend
3.48m (3.08m)	-0.70m (0.03m)	-4.5p (1.4p)	2.2p (2.2p)
107m (98.4m)	12.6m (10.9m)	5.87p (5.06p)	1.6p (1.35p)
0.02m (0.02m)	2.35m (1.20m)	4.8p (2.5p)	1.28p (1.15p)
70.9m (59.7m)	6.57m (5.69m)	7.4p (6.8p)	2.4p (2.25p)
29.8m (52.6m)	0.3m (-6.31m)	0.7p (-21.6p)	nii (nii)
107m (113m)	-3.84m (4.73m)	-6.12p (4.28p)	0.5p (1.95p)
18.7m (19.9m)	-6.58m (-0.84m)	-3.4p (-0.51p)	ni (ni)
76.0 (66.1m)	7.03rs (6.21m)	18.84p (15,69p)	5.7p (5.5p)
38.6m (37.2m)	5.5m (4.7m)	7.02p (5.85p)	3.5p (3.25p)
8.43m (8.79m)	0.11m (0.04m)	1.01p (0.36p)	0.25p (nll)

expanded rapidly in recent years - had shown more growth. the chairman said. "Our Judith Leiber division in the US has made further satisfactory progress. The new collection of Judith Leiber fashion jeweller

In 1993, Time paid \$17m (£10.5m) for Leiber, which makes handbags retailing at between \$2,000 and \$3,000 each. The plan at the time of the acquisition was to use Leiber to launch an international luxury goods business based on women's accessories.

His comments accompanied half-way figures to July showing pre-tax profits up 18 per cent to £5.54m, taking earnings per share from 5.85p to 7.02p. The interim dividend is raised 7.7 per cent to 3.5p. Turnover advanced from £37.2m to £38.6m, while operating profits rose from £4.55m to £5.40m.

United Energy builds platform to recovery

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

United Energy, formerly known as Falcon Resources, made a t-tax profit of £35,000 in the first half of the year, compared with a loss of £193,000 in the same period last year. The company, whose main operations are the development and production of oil and gas interests in the US and Europe, increased its turnover to £1.8bn in the six months to 30 June,

from £1.2bn a year ago. The United chairman, John Billington, said the company had a strong platform on which to continue to develop the business in the oil, gas and wider energy sectors. He was optimistic that the progress made in the first half could be built on group production was about

double that of this time last year and at record levels. "The Woodbine and Renown

properties have been integrated successfully into the existing portfolio in the US and we have identified areas with potential for increased production and/or reduced operating costs with the intention of implementing these improvements prior to the year end." he said. In addition, the company

had significant interests in two fields that it believed were potential candidates for water flooding - a technique in which water is swept through a field, pushing the oil ahead of it in the hopes of enhancing recoverable reserves. But the reserves attributable to these had yet to be included in the mid-year reserves pending further engineering evaluation, he said.

CLASSIFIED Unusual Gifts BETHDAYS



Public Notices

OFFICE of the RAIL REGULATOR

The Railways Act 1993 Licence Applications by WEST ANGLIA GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY ("the applicant")

ncapal address of the applicant: Hertford House, 1 Cranwood Street, London EC1V 9GT Directors of the applicant: John Grueme Nelson, Kenneth Bar David Wilcock, Geoffrey Hedley Maynard

The Rail Regulator hereby gives notice in accordance with section 8 (4) of the Railways Act 1993 that he proposes to grant a passenger licence, a non-passenger licence, a station licence and a light tenance depot licence, to the applicant on the grounds that, subject to compliance with all necessary legal requirements, it appears to him to be a fit and proper person to be the holder of such licences and to operate the railway assets in question. The applicant is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the British Railways Board. Any person who wishes to make any representation or objection with respect to the proposed licences should send such representations or objections to:

iryna Terlecky, Assistant Director, Passenger Services Regulation, Office of the Rail Regulator, 1 Waterhouse Sc 138-142 Holborn, London ECIN 2ST

Dated 13th October 1995

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Maunders fears for margins

DAVID HELLIER

John Maunders, the North-west and South of England house-builder, said its margins were under attack as it strived to tempt house purchasers back into the market.

The company sold 1,089 houses in the year to June, against 949 the previous year, but the squeeze on margins meant that profits before tax for the year were up a modest 13 per cent at £7.03in, compared with £6.2m last year.

The company said its average selling price remained similar to last year at just under £70,000 with a part-exchange scheme being used for a quarter of sales. First-time homes accounted for 42 per cent of output. John Maunders, chairman,

does not expect a significant change in market conditions. "It is unrealistic to assume any dramatic change in the market in the short term, but through our marketing incentives we will be able to achieve our targets in the current half, although margins are under pressure.

"Low inflation and interest rates mean the climate has never been better for house buyers,' Mr Maunders said, "but there is just a general lack of confi-

dence among potential buyers."
The final dividend is increased from 3.25p from 3.05p, making a total of 5.7p for the year. The shares moved up 1p

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1,758.0 +20.7. SEAQ VOLUME

744.1m shares.

30,518 bargains

Gilts index

SHARE SPOTLIGHT

FT-SE 350

tor yesterday spread to paper and packaging and homed in on Bunzl, which reversed a fall

in early trading to close 2p

m early trading to close 2p higher at 193p on speculation that International Paper of the US may mount a bid.

Almost 2 million Bunzl shares were traded, although a large part of the volume was said to be the tail-end of a sell order from an institutional investor.

Bunzl's shares have recovered steadily following the plunge to 55p during the height of the recession. At

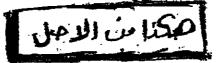
yesterday's closing price, Bun-

zi is worth more than £850m. The company is now in rude health, a reflection of the

clear-out of a hotch-potch of businesses by Tony Habgood

since he became chief execu-

Despite the success of Mr



market report/shares



ful resolu 'my water



Bunzl takes its turn as the popular takeover target The takeover rumours that have infested sector after sechowever, the company is trad-

ple of 12.9, which is below the The main attraction for In-

ternational Paper, dealers said, would be the company's commanding position in America for supplying packaging to One dealer said that any

market average of 13.6.

move by International Paper could well raise the acquisitive sights of Jefferson Smurfit, the Irish company which has spent the last 20 years buying its way to pole position in the world league for paper and board makers. Shares in Jefferson Smurfit rose 7p to 187p. The Bunzi bid rumour was just one of dozens that sent share prices soaring. Even worse-than-expected inflation figtires were only a minor irritant for a market that is convinced

MARKET REPORT JOHN SHEPHERD

takeovers will be capped by the mother of all deals. The speculative list of Pet and Green Giant.

takeover targets is now so long that it is surprising that the actuarial profession has not devised a separate index to track their progress. Volume trading was good, with almost 750 million shares traded. There were more than 30,000

Trading in shares and op-tions of Grand Metropolitan, the international food and drinks group, was particularly heavy amid further rumours that Kohlberg Kravis Roberts. the American leveraged buy-out specialist, was considering a break-up bid. GrandMet is

basically made up of three parts: the IDV drinks business, which is one of the biggest in the world; the Burger King fast-food operation; and food, which encompasses Pillsbury,

14p to 441p, which values the company at around £9.7bn. More than 1,500 call option contracts, each covering I million shares at 500p each, were struck on the November series.

GrandMet's shares climbed

Continued excitement over the Lloyds Bank merger with TSB pushed Royal Bank of Scotland's shares 19p higher to 502p. The shares already traded at a premium to the bank-

RBS's profits powerhouse, the Direct Line insurance business. Abbey National, ahead 21p to 570, is the market's favourite suitor mainly because the North-South geographical link would match that of the new Lloyds TSB eroun.

group.

More than 10 million shares
were dealt in RBS, and trading in Abbey National topped 9 million, A key 23 per cent of RBS is owned by just two shareholders - Banco Santander of Spain with 10 per cent and Mercury Asset Man-

agement with 13 per cent. Gartmore shot up another 13p to a year's high of 289p amid strong speculation that the fund management group would be under new management be the control of new management and of new management be the control of new management and of new mana ment by the end of next week.
BAT Industries, the financial
services and tobacco group, is
tipped as one of the main suitors, along with National West-minster bank. Shares in BAT

firmed 2p to 546p, and NatWest gained 9p to 621p. Traders believe that the eventual buyer will have to pay more than £400m for the con-

trolling 75 per cent stake owned by Banque Indosuez. Henderson Administration gained 11p to 1,224p, Invesco added 5p to 226p, and Per-pennal advanced 33p to 1,740p, with investors convinced that the loser in the fight for Gartmore will launch a strike against another fund manage-

ment group.

The media pitch was awash with rumours. Telegraph closed 6p higher at 436p despite denials from Pearson, up 3p to 611p, that it was considering a bid. There was gossip in late trading that Courad in late trading that Conrad Black would tighten his control over the Telegraph by splash-ing out £30m for a further 5 per cent of the shares. He aiready controls 58.5 per cent of the

□Shares in Unipalm increased 11p to 425p as rumours swirled that a counter -bid was on the way, possibly from the Dutch KPN telecoms group. The rumours came just a day after UUNET of the US made an agreed £97m bid for Unipalm, recently caught up in contro-versy after it said a bid would be made at considerably below the prevailing 600p market price. KPN is said to have approached Unipalm earlier this year but was firmly rebuffed.

Oxford Molecular, the pharmaceuticals group, fired a penny to 196p shortly be-fore the close on some talk that it was close to doing some more joint venture deals in the wake of the recent tie-ups with Glaxo Wellcome and Perkin Elmer in the US.

Habgood's strategy and the ac-Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional stems. Other details: 2r Ex rights x Ex-dividend a Unlisted Securities Market a Suspended PP Partly Paid pan Nil Paid Shures. THE INDEPENDENT INDEX The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Seaq. Simply dial 8891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. FT-SE 100 – Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 Privatisation Issues UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullion Report 05 Water Shares UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20 Electricity Shares Pereign Exchange 03 Tokyo Market 21 High Street Banks Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The Independent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 333. For assistance, call our helpline 07I 873 4375 (9.30am - 5.30pm). Calls cost 39p per minute (chesp rate), and 49p at all other times. Call charge MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES FT-SE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR 14.00 3507.3 up 33.0 16.00 3523.1 up 48.8 Increase your business share FOOD MANUFACTURERS with a Freefow THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O TOBACCO RETAIL ERS, GENERAL Work Smither. OO HER SERVICES TO HER SERVICES OO HER S GAS DISTRIBUTION ### ALTH CARE ### AL # 24 HB 1835 # 44 9 St 1835 # 44 9 St 1837 # 44 9 St 1837 # 412 26 # 13 115 1831 # 23 115 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 23 125 1831 # 24 125 1832 # 24 125 1832 # 24 125 1832 # 24 125 1832 # 24 125 1833 # 24 1833 CHEMICALS 174 AM CORRES 175 AM COR **GOVERNMENT SECURITIES** Red YL: 6.17 6.20 8.14 8.24 8.16 8.25 8.29 Prize C 112²4 94¹⁵5 105²³2 114¹¹52 109¹5 100²5 Mina Cing 50% -25% -25% - 1-1 25% - 1-2 2 8.82 1285 July 8.58 1225 1-10 8.58 1235 1-20 1235

unit trusts/data

Bamber

climbing

up the

pyramid

There has been an unfamiliar

name on top of the UniBond (formerly Northern Premier) League for most of the season.

Bamber Bridge, in their first term in the league's top flight, are four points clear of the pack

This is a remarkable achieve-

ment for a club which, as re-cently as 1990, were playing in the Preston and District

League. They advanced to the North West Counties League

that year, and climbed through its divisions to reach the North-

ern Premier in 1993. Last sea-

son they were promoted from

the First Division as runners-up

behind Blyth Spartans - and beat Premier Division opposi-

tion to win both the League

Challenge Cup and the Lan-cashire FA ATS Trophy (the

Bamber Bridge have done all

this without a wealthy backer

county cup).

and have yet to be beaten.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

RUPERT METCALF

Harayir displays Hern durability

RICHARD EDMONDSON

HARAYIR won the Challenge Stakes at Newmarket yesterday to set up what would be, without a shadow of a doubt, the most deserved success in the Breeders' Cup later this month.

The estimable filly may now be the avenger at Belmont Park for Willie Carson, Dick Hern and Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktourn, who probably still sits bolt upright in the dead of night at the memory of Dayjur's performance in New York five years ago, when the colt jettisoned certain victory by jump-

Section Constitution

three at a

ing the shadow of the stand.
If hardiness is to be the key to the Breeders' Cup Mile, then Harayir can easily be envisaged with the winner's gar-land across her thick shoulders. The daughter of Gulch, who beat Soviet Line by half a length yesterday, opened her seasonal account in the 1,000 Guineas over the Rowley Mile in May, and yesterday's success on the same course was her fourth

Group race victory of the year.
It was also further proof of Dick Hern's training endurance. Every time that followers of the sport expect Hern to wheel himself into the sunset he comes up with yet another talented standard-bearer. Hern delights in Harayir's achievements and versatility and expects even more from her. 'Harayir has won over seven furlongs and a mile and is not bad over six fur-

NEWMARKET

2.00 Projection

SIS All YRCCS

2.35 WLIARA (nap) 3.05 My Branch

HYPERION

GOING: Good to Firm. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

STALLS: 4.50 - far ede; 3.05, 3.40 - stands' side; remainder - centre.

E. Right, hand course with Imil straight.

E. Course is SW of form on A1300 Sirels link from Cambridge and Newmarket railway stations (served by London, Liverpool Street). ADMISSION: Club £14 (16 to 25-year-olds £8); Grandstand & Paddock £9 (16 to 25-year-olds £5); Silver Ring £3. CAR FARE: Members £1; remainder free.

III LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: H Coell- 57 winners from 297 runner

TRADING TRAINERS WITH ECONOMISS: H. COSI— 57 WINNESS From 397 Tunners gives a success ratio of 18.2% and a loss to a 21 level gashe of 556.42; J Goeden — 57 winners, 363 runners, 15.7%, -245.60; E Hannon — 53 winners, 571 runners, 9.37%, -2528.25; L Cumuni — 43 winners, 394 runners, 14.1%, -258.54.

LEADING JOCKETS: Pat Eddery — 106 winners, 530 rides, 20%, -556.73; L Destori — 30 winners, 506 rides, 14.1%, -5135.11; W R Swinburn — 64 winners, 409 rides, 15.6%, +516.26; W Carson — 63 winners, 526 rides, 12%, -587.23.

LONG-DISTANCE SUNNESS: Magic Lake (4.15) & Southbury Express (4.50) have been sent 200 miles by E Alsion from Longon, Lance.

1.30 NEWMARKET CHALLENGE CUP (CLASS G) 2YO 7f Penal-ty Value

SHEMOZZIE, a Shirtey Heights half-sizar to the seven-furiong and mile winner, Resize, is out of a dem who won at two years in America. She would not have to be exceptional to stretch Menths Quest, whose lettest run was over nine furiongs at Sandown when a seven-and-a-quenter lengths' fourth to Night Westh. She was fourth to Ghada over the foliases seven on her debut and did not stem very well suited by Chester in between Missane seven on her debut and did not stem very well suited by Chester in between the Pravide was a bit backward on her debut but managed only 15th of 17 in Polish Spring's sb-furions maiden here lest month.

Selection: SHEMOZZIE.

2.00 EBF TRAVIS PERKINS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £7,000 added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £6,619

2.35 BARRING INTERNATIONAL DARLEY STAKES (CLASS A) (Listed) £18,000 1m 1f Penalty Value £11,826

- 8 deciared
BETTIME: 100-50 Restricture, 7-2 Wijers, 9-2 Lap Of Lucary, 5-1 Mannet, 19-2 Minetie, 10-1 Al Webyer, 12-1 Kelsher Mantee, 20-1 Resions Riviers
1994; Deport Stot 4 9 0 L Detton 13-8 (M Spatie) 6 san
FORM BURDE

Wilston Burden In a stablement of Communication Communi

FORM BLEDE

Rushing Mashing is a stablement of Champion Stakes contender Garmany and his form seems just short of what is required to trouble Julie Cooli's RESTRUCTURE. a helf-hother to champion hunder Alderbrook. Restructure was upped in distance to 10 furlong-plus in a fetting that the properties of the process of the helf a helf is being the held Medalle Militaire, who was in nockpt of 6th. Unroced at two, he had been rending over a mite previously and so this nine furlongs should be fine. He has been freshnand over a mite previously and so this nine furlongs should be fine. He has been freshnand over a mite previously and so this nine furlongs should be fine. He has been freshnand on agreement his more fine for the puly course when winning from Bin Rosle (mile and experied since been handicap) on ground that was considered firm for him. Missinger has not specified since been reg Ryparian and in Camera in the Lingheld Derby Tital and Peter Walmyn's decision to try

added 2YO 6f Penalty Value £6,619

Alfree Hidden's 2st Dis New Breath 8 Harbury 9 0.

ANTINICEC STORM (Array Stress) E During 9 0.

BULE SLEDE HOOPS (LIO, Green Painting) B Meeten 9 0.

DOCTOR SKEEN (FR) (The Query Lost Hursington 9 0.

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DOCTOR SKEEN (FR) (The Query Lost Hursington 9 0.

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BINNING (LIS) (SF) (No During 10 0.

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MICHARDS (LIS) (SF) (Bentan A Malacum) 1 Gosden 9 0.

SHOOT (SA) (J I R AI) P Metchell 9 0.

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SHOOT (SA) (J I R AI) P Metchell 9 0.

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BILINEERED FIRST TIME: Inverticity (3.00); Minimum (visored) (2.85).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

444 MARTHA QUEST (44) (K Abdullah) B Hiss 8 9-Q MASS PRAHDA (25) (Lord Howast de Weblant F SHEMOZZIE (Lord Hartegan) J Gosdan 8 9 -- 3 declared -

-3 declared -BETTING: 8-11 Shemozzie, 6-4 Martha Quest, 8-1 Miss Pravia 1994: Ben Burn 2 9 0 Par Edday 8-5 (P Weblyn) 3 mn FORM GUIDE

3.40 Alhaarth 4.15 Lovely Prospect

longs either," he said yesterday. decision about appealing as "She ran at the Craven meeting a 10-day ban imposed in mid-April and it is now mid-October and she's still going. She's a joy to train.

"We will have to see what Sheikh Hamdan says, but if the ground is right and looks like being on top, there must be a possibility she will run in the Breeders' Cup Mile.

"A lot of people said to me after Dayjur's defeat that at least he will always be remembered, but I would much rather have won and been forgotten. I won't forget that day in a hurry."

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Papaha (Newmarket 3.05) NB: Polar Prince (Newmarket 4.15)

The biggest cheque yesterday was pocketed in Cleveland by Michael Jarvis, whose Blue Iris, a 7,600 guineas purchase, took her earnings to almost £144,000 in the Redcar Two-Year-Old Trophy. Residents close to the North-East track had to keep their windows closed on Monday as a huge chemical fire raged nearby, and the shutters may have been closed again yesterday to prohibit the noise of horseflesh, as 26 runners thundered down the straight. At the head of the mass, Blue Iris equalled the juvenile course record as she beat Cayman Kai.

Jarvis's Newmarket neigh-bour, John Gosden, will today influence Lanfranco Dettori's a 10-day ban imposed on Wednesday. If the jockey ap-peals successfully, he will be free to ride Gosden's Tamure in tomorrow's Champion Stakes. Stanley House's fancied run-

ner in the Cesarewitch is out however as the ground is considered too firm for Istabraq, who had been the second favourite.

Gosden has missed out on the chance of lucre there and he may also be casting wistfully at the Dubai World Cup, for which 48 entrants were announced yesterday. Halling, who was formerly trained by Gosden, will be one of the favourites for the world's richest race at \$4m on 27 March. Others with the whiff of big bucks are Cigar, Pennekamp, Freedom Cry and Sheikh Hamdan's Bahri.

The Sheikh is represented by yet another talent today when Alhaarth offers his unbeaten record for inspection in the Dewhurst Stakes. While PA-PAHA (nap 3.05) may be the best value of the day, it is the De-whurst, despite its meagre turnout, which will attract most attention. For four of the last five years the race's winner has gone on to British Classic success.

Alhaarth's main rival is thought to be Danehill Dancer, but there were distinctly pessimistic noises emanating from the latter's camp vesterday and it appears that the Sheikh, Hern and Carson should have no worries here. They can reserve those for shadows over the water in two weeks' time.



Naked Welcome (right) beats Seckar Vale and Whitechapel (left) at Newmarket yesterday

NEWMARKET

Fallon hits out

Kieran Fallon was in trouble with authority yet again yesterday. The stewards at Redcar gave him a seven-day ban for hitting his mount, Fairywings, over the head as she was play-ing up at the start. Fallon was banned for six months for dragging Stuart Webster out of the saddle last September and was fined for swearing at a starter at Pontefract in midsummer. He

has recently serving an eight-day ban for irresponsible riding.

him in a visor has a touch of desperation about it. Mureus could lead at a good pace un-less it as Wijara who tries a repent of the front-running factics which paid off with a gusty win from Clan Ben at Newbury a month ago. He had run creditably in a Listed race at Batten-Baden previously first start for 14 weeks). All Widyan has been below from in his two runs to date this tarm but Lap Of Lucury von at Sardown in July before a good second to Timan-de in a Group Three fittles' race at the Curragh. She has since been sight of 13 to Bin Rosia over a male here. The lightly raced Minette will stay every yard and has a chance because it is just possible the soft ground she encountered when third to Revere at Goodwood last time was not lideal.

3	.05	EREENE KING ROCKFEL STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 3) £30,000 2YO fillies 7f Penalty Value £19,362	1
1	110	BINT SALSABIL (USA) (36) (CD) (Herroten Al Maistourn) J Dunlop 8 12W Carnon	7
2	104025	HOME SHOPPING (13) Peter Backey K McAudio 8 12	8
3	132112	MY BRANCH (17) (Made Said) B Has 8 12	2
4		THRULING DRY (23) (Bloomsbury Saudi N Greisem 8 12	
5	34	PAPPARA (FR) (CC) (T F Hants) H Card 89Pat Eddary	5
6		PARROT JUNGLE (20) (D) (States At Nation) J Durstop 8.9	
7	14	WRIVEY (18) (D) (George Strawbridge) J Goeden 8 9	8
8	411610	WILLOW DALE (16) Seichael Jackson Bloodstock Ltd) D Elsworth 8 9T Quien	4

Persot Junghe, Winney, 20-1 Willow Dale 1994: Germaina 2 8 8 M Fernton 5-1 (M Bell) 8 ren

PAPANA gets the nod over My Branch. There is every chance that My Branch can do well at this trip but Papara has a stready. Shown good seven-furforg form, running on really well when fourth to Rio Duvids in the Bratesalis Houghton Sales States over course and distance 1.7 days back. The first three were drawn 18, 16 and 29 and Papana, drawn two, deserves credit for being first home of those who raced on the standa' side. This Frenchard, whose dam is a half-asser to Old Vic., had been green when third to Keepers Dewn at Nogfinghem the time before and while few moldens win in Pattern company, she could be one of the exceptions. My Branch, a late-Mey foel, is by Destant Relative out of a dem who won over a mile at two years. She has done well since being ridden for a turn of foot over at furiouse and can hardly be faulted for playing second fiddle to Blue Duster in the Cheveley Park. She had beeten flowe Shopping in the First Of Cycle Szkles at Ay previously and can confirm the form on 20 wome tarms. Blut Salesali looks the other key contender and though her May Hill Stales eighth lest time was disappointing, she can surely show she is better than that. She had previously looked the sort of filly that would improve with time and experience, despite being good enough to win at Ascot (June) and on the July course (August).

3.40 GENEROUS DEWHURST STAKES (CLASS A) (Group 1) £70,000 210 7f Penalty Value £82,390
1 36 ALBAHA (USA) (44) (Handan Al Makhoun) R Amestong 9 0R Mas 2
2 1111 ALIMARTH (35) (CC) (Handan Al Maktouri) W R Ham 9 ()
3 111 DANESEL DANGER (27) (C) (D) (M Tabot) N Callagten 9 0
4 51411. TAGULA (54) (C) (Patient & Blashesh Hitching) Baiding 9 0
~ 4 doctored —
CONTRACT A CARL COLUMN TAR DE LES RESSES A CARLOS ACCA ARGENTAL

BETING: 4-6 Albanth, 7-4 Denoted Denote, 9-2 Tagles, 65-1 Albaha
1994; Percelorang 2.9 0 T Jenet 5-2 (A False, R) 7 ram
FORM GUIDE.

ALHAARTH's position as clear favourise for the 2,000 Gurness and Derby is desanted at this early stage of the plot, but so much can happen in the next eight months. He has to pess this test for a start but has looked classy in sunning four out of four and the form of his wins, letterly a defeat of Rio Duvide at Doncester, has a very solid look. Pat Eddery has won two of the latest three numings of this race on Zafonic and Pennetiamp and he partners the unbeaten Denobilit Denoer who has already won two Group Ones in treland, the letter svent (National Stakes) being over seven fundings when he best Polaris Flight, winner of the Richmond Stakes and Goodwood. Tagala, wicorious in the July Stakes and the Pits Morry, could be best at six furiongs judged on pedigree. Albaha has already finished behind Denoerlik Denoer and should not be good anough.

Selection: ALHAARTH.

	ī	PROJECTION (USA) (K Abdulan) B Hills 9 0	·
	I	TO THE PARK SOUTH AND THE PROPERTY OF THE PARK STATE OF THE PARK S	THE U. O. V. COMMUNICATIONS WINDSON WANTING THE PROPERTY WANTINGS OF TH
	1 13		4.15 H & K COMMISSIONS NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 270 1m Penalty Value £8,025
	14	P 40-400 T T	(CLASS C) £10,000 2YU 1m Penalty value £8,025
	15	r bushbarau hagariree 25M (The Cheerestrop Pathaffill) M (Jibilla) 6 8	1 5521, POLAR PRINCE (20) (Mrs Chestine Statement) M Janus 9 7
	1 35	Commence of the Commence of th	2 52215 CREATIVE ACCOUNT (ASA) (CG) (EP) (P A Leonard) May J Ramsden 9 7 K Fallon 4
	17	o and harmani also alle shari WACampa X G	3 05412 CONSORDINO (21) (8P) (Sheep Mohammad) L Cumani 9 6
	l iš	Miller of the Continue Market Constitute R O	4 000130 OBLONIOV (20) (John Menity) G Leves 9 3Peat Eddery 11.
	19	mile less submitted from at the form Co Philip (International III II Vicini C y	5 631. MySTIC INVESTIT (16) (D) Exist of Sir Philip Oppenhemen) R Charlon 9 2
	. ~~	PERFORM PARENCES AFTER AT MER LANCE CONTINUES IN MICHAEL CONTINUES AND	8 012433 RHANNER DANCER (7) (N Aramad) R Hannon 9 0
	21	CO TASKINA (DSA) (109) (Hamoen Al Meldount) I Dunkop 8 9	7 51, Pine NEEDLE (24) (D) (Lord Halfled D Modey 8 11
			8 635 CHEERFUL ASPECT (18) (Makitourn Al Makeourn) E Denhop 8 11
i	BETTENO-	P.O. Cabon, 7.9 Controller, 4.1 Manageres, 8-1 Mahandis, 10-1 Stately Dencer, Holy Re-	9 C21, LOWELY PROSPECT (LIS) (R Antoni) R Guest 8 9
	berne 12	2-1 Doctor Green, 14-1 Invertocity, 16-1 Nunsharps, Polich Widow, 20-1 others	10 400305 BALPARE (10) Barthad Hill N Callegran 7 7
	1004 5	tolen Melody 2 8 9 W Ryen 100-30 (R Boss) 14 rsn	11 04504 MAKASKAMENA (00) (IRAN) P Machell ? ?
			12 332432 MARIC LAVE (5) (P.D Endon) E Alaton 7.7
	PPO IPC	THON looks a likely bort on pedigree, being by Topsider out of a smart US recemera.	- 12 declared -
			Minimum: 7st 7th, True herothap weights: Balpane 7st 5th, Makaskernina 7st 1th, Magic Lake 6st 13th.
			BETTING 7-2 Creeding Account, 9-2 Consording, 5-1 Mystic Knight, 8-1 Place Meedle, 9-1 Cheerful
			Aspect, 12-1 Oblomos, Polar Prince, Rhumbs Dancer, 16-1 Balpare, Lovely Prospect, 25-1 others
			1994: Naked Welcome 2 9 2 Pat Eddery 12-1 Oil Fetherson-Godwyl 22 ran
			FORM GUIDE
			CONSORDENO may not be one of those handicap blots we look for in russeries, but she
			will railed thus first tift at a mile and she would have gone close to beating Samira at Rad-
			CBF (77) lest time under a senior jackey. She was the neady winner of a farmouth nursery previously. Creative Account shapes as if a mile will suit him well and he was doing some
			previously. Creative account steples as a a line will state and the rest was gottle
			good late work when shith to King Of Peru in a sh-furlong nursery here 13 days ago. His
			August defeat of My Branch here reads well. Poler Prince will ske the trip and won a 16-
			runner Haydock maiden lest time in gaine fashlon, while Mystic Kalght was helped by a
	CHARLES	genore to large of the East at the Control Selection: PROJECTION.	low draw when warning at Salisbury 16 days back (Cheerful Aspect a promising fifth) but
- 1	BILES 1834		is a well-bred colt getting better. Also improving is Plane Needle, bred to blossom over far-
	Ł	DADLEY CTAVES IM ASS THE ANALYSIS OF THE ASSET	ther next year. She won a Nottingham maiden in good style last time, overcoming her in-

FORM GUIDE

CONSORDENO may not be one of those handicap blots we lock for in runseries, but she will radish this first tift at a mile and she would have gone close to beating Semim at RadCar (7f) last time under a senior jockey. She was the ready winner of a learnouth nursery previously. Creative Account shapes as if a mile will suit him well and he was doing some good late work when sixth to King Of Peru in a sh-furiory nursery here 13 days ago. His August defeat of My Branch here reads well. Poler Prince will six the trip and won a 16runner Haydock makened lest time in game lestion, while Myste Kuight was heped by a low draw when warning at Salisbury 16 days back (Cheerful Aspect a promising fifth) but is a well-bred cold getting better. Also Improving as Pine Needle, bred to bissom over after next year. She won a Notumpian meiden in good style lest time, overcoming her insepartence, and is a big danger.

4.50 NGK SPARK PLUGS HANDICAP (CLASS C) £8,000 added 3YO 1m 6f Penalty Value £6,160
4 ACCORD TO AN AUGUST MAN AT P Managery S Day 9.7
I WASSE SHOW IN THE PARTY OF WASSESSEE
2 112302 LANSKY EROVINE (6) (Mrs.) R Ramedien) Mrs.) Ramedien 9.6 X Pallon 6
2 11200 Grant The Control of The Con
3 045136 ALABABY (29) (D) (George Strautotign) Belding 95
4 60/204 DIGITALE CIEN (LS) (I A Johnsey R Harrion 9 2M Roberts 2
4 SUPER DESCRIPTION (13) (1 ASSESSED TO 13
r Porces and apple man of Runhament G Harvard S 23U in the first 4
3 Step on his Light, was a second was a second
6 C31.402 BOWLEFE COURT (1.9 () Herson) B HRs 8 12 W Carson 5
a section in the property of the Control of
7 013126 BOURDARY EXPRESS (12) (BF) Data State Bardoy) E Aston 88 N Yorkey (3) 1
- 7 declared -
The same and the same same and the same same and the same same and the same same same same same same same sam

Obtamelody, 14-1 Our Kide 1994: Trans Sibena 3 & 10 W Woods 11-4 (5 Wheele) 10 man

1894: Taxas Shena 3 8 10 W Woods 11-4 (S Woods) 10 no FORM CLIPPE COURT looks the right one here. The 1830 has rise in the weights at the final declaration stage helps him and his first tilt at the trip resulted in a second to Floriting Line who went on to run e fine race against Endor Island at Wrix, Harry Browne is worth trying at this distance star a good second of 21 to Agunti at York, while Distancedry, a half-brother to a Cesare-which winner, Go South, looks a thorough stayer. Boundary Express did well when second to Islabraq at Ayr two outings ago and he was disablentaged by staying on the far side in Ballymac Girl's Haydock race last time. Selections BOWCLIFTE COURT.

2.35: WIJARA was an impressive winner at Newbury last time and it is worth taking a chance that he can show the same level of form on this faster surface. Restructure must be feared but his stable is not firing, while Ninette may need further.

task than when taking on Blue Duster last time, but the presence of Papaha precludes confidence.



strong hand of juvenile fillies and did well from a bad draw in Rio Duvida's race over this track and trip.

each of his four starts and can come through his toughest test yet. He

comes from a stable with a

3.48: ALHAARTH, favourite for the 1996 2,000 Guineas and Derby, has won with something in hand on

arrough his roughest test yet. He faces formidable opponents in Dane-hill Dancer and Tagula, who have both won at Group One level, and represents a bad betting medium.

4.15: LOVELY PROSPECT ha been let in lightly for her handicap debut and can hold Polar Prince.

LUDLOW

HYPERION

1.50 Schnozzie 2.20 Turpin's Green 2.55 Saint Martine 3.25 Maggots Green 4.00 Serious Danger 4.35 Lake Of Loughrea 5.05 Gone For Lunch

GOTNG: Good to Firm (Good in piaces). november crosses. one is NW of Lown off A49. Lucilow station (Hereford - Sp bury line) 2m. ADMISSION: (Jub 514 (accompanie free); Taliensels 59; Course 55. CAR PARK: Free.

SIS All races WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None. LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Magahad (5.65) has been sent 195 miles by J.I.O'Neill from Skelton Wood End, Cumbria. 1.50 HALFORD NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E)

G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A Price 4 10 2 12 Mar Mi Austrono
G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A Price 4 10 12 Mar Mi Austrono
G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A 10 12 Mar Mi Austrono
G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A 10 12 Mar Mi Austrono
G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A Substitute To 10 8 Mar J Judea
G OPRES SON (BES) Mas A Substitute To 10 8 Mar J Judea

- 8 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Schoozzie, 7-2 Lot's Get Lost, 9-2 Layloam Low, 5-1 Drag-on Breen, Cast The Line, 14-1 Reed My Lips, 33-1 others 2.20 CASTLE SELLING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS G) £4,000 added 2m

48-0314 TUBPIN'S GREEN (32) J King 12 11 10 _______ & Upton 434-3PS WINNERD WIND (70) (b) J Whee 11 11 8 _____ A P McCoy

- 8 declared -GETTING: 3-1 Wasza, 7-2 Turpin's Green, 9-2 West Orient, 5-1 Wayward Wind, 7-1 Maletind, 9-1 Officert, 12-1 others 2.55 BRIMFIELD NOVICE HANDICAP HUR-

DLE (CLASS G) £2,600 2m 5f 11,0yds

3.25 COURT OF HILL AMATEURS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f

11 #P-PAP POREST RADII (22) 0) I Seens 12 10 0 Miles E Janues (7)

11 #P-PAP POREST RADII (22) 0) I Seens 12 10 0 Miles E Janues (7)

11 declared –

Minimum weight: 10st. True handlarp weight: Pothly in Paris 9st 9b, Pying

2bad, John Roger & Forest Rand 9st 5b,

BETTING: 11-4 hir Entertainer, 5-1 Castle Diamond, Rupples, 6-1 Maggists Green, 13-2 Hurryap, 14-1 Shppery Max, John Roger, 16-1 others

4.00 FARMERS STORES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m

-8 outcares - Minimum neight: 10st. The handlesp veight: Britanis Mills 9st 10st.
BETTERS: 9-4 Rad Valentan, 3-1 Serious Danger, 7-2 Hours it Gola, 11-2
Forgatful, 7-1 Jimmy The Gille, 10-1 Golden Madjumbo, 12-1 others

4.35 GRETE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 addeq 2m 4f 50/U GREY SMOKE (13) Mas H Knight 5 10 12

2 430052 HALHAM TARK (5) H Mannes 5 10 12e brown 3 2205-F2 LAKE OF LOUGHREA (10) (BF) K Boby 5 10 12 ... Downoody BETTRIC: 4-9 Lake Of Longiston, 9-4 Grey Scolin, 10-1 Hollum Terri 5.05 CLUN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m

00- COLOURFUL BOY (153) H Mannets 6 11 4... JOSET-JADE (721) A Chamberlan 6 11 4 HILD BOY M Crapman 4 11.3 ______ E Hosband (5) TROPWEN MARROY B Prece 6 10 13 ____P McLoughlin (3)

CATTERICK

2.15 House Of Dreams 2.45 Camionneur 3.15 Singing Patriarch 3.50 Sea Victor 4.25 Indian Relative (nb) 4.55 Hasta La Vista GOING: Good to Firm, STALLS: Inside, except 6f (outside). GUNUS: GOOD to FIFTH. STALLASS INC., except of (quising).

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 51.

Left-hand course, undusting and sharp.

Course is NW of town on A8136. Darlington station 14m – buses to course. ADMESSION: Cab 510; Thitersalls 56; Course 52 (moder 16s free all enclosures). CAR PARK: Members 52, rost free.

BLINEBRED FIRST TIME: Snitch (2.45); Spring Silhouette (vi sored) (4.25); Imperial Bid (visored); Belgran (4.55). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

ICANG-DISTANCE BUINNERS: Mighty Squaw (2.15) has been sent 304 miles by Mes G Relivery from Whitcombe, Dorset; Singing Pa-triarch (3.15) sent 293 miles by J Dunlop from Arundel, W Sussex. 2.15 CRAVEN APPRENTICE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS G) £3,250 added 3YO 1m 4f

2.45 ILKLEY NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 5f

54050 PRENCENAL BOY (16) T Etherngon 7 9 ______ 1 Charact 16 40342 FRANCES MARY (13) C Festure 7 7 _____ P Fessey (6) 2 600 MELLAGH HEL LAD (33) B McMatter 77 , Decree Methat (3) 3

18 500 Estatutes rest the stay of returns of 7 in the stay of the 3.15 RIPLEY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f

00 ALPRE JOKER (12) Mrs J Rameden 9 0 – 12 deciared – BETING: 8-4 Singing Patriarch, 5-1 Craignaira, 7-1 Cinnaic Bensty, 8-1 Prog. 10-1 Azabian Heights, Hawksiey Hill, 12-1 Utmost Zual, 16-1 others

3.50 BRETTANBY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 3YO 1m 7f 177yds

4.25 ZETLAND MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 2YO 7f BETTENG: 9-4 Indian Relative, 5-2 Ground Game, 4-1 Missie, 7-1 Dopbie

Check, 10-1 Ma Bultie, 12-1 Champagne Warrior, 16-1 ott 4.55 HORNBY CASTLE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,250 added 1m 4f

1 211111 NEEP YOUR DISTUNCE (ILD) (CO) Wis M Revely 59 10 .

Minimum weight: 7st 7th. True handlage weights: Contact's Legend 7st 2th, Embardler 7st, Beigran fox 4th, Escape Tell 5st 2th. BETTING 7-4 Keep Year Distance, 4-1 Pet's Splendoor, 11-2 Haste La Vista, 7-5 Chantry Beath, 8-1 Contact's Legend, 20-1 others

Horse Racing

Results 0839 - 111 171

FULL RESULTS SERVICE **0891-168-168** N'MARKET 101 201 301 CATTERICK 102 202 302

NEWMARKET

1.80: 1. BAL HARBOUR (Per Edden) 5-2 tar; 2. Warning Order 5-1; 3. Barcol 3-1. 9 mm, 1. 1. 04 Cecl. Tota: (2.50: 51.30, 52.30, §51.30, Dasi Forecast: 512.00. CSF: £21.11. No: £5.20.
2.00: 1. DOMETTES (Date O'Neil) 15-1; 2. Share Shatific 20.1: 2 Sumbore Star 5.

... **Print**

2.00: 1. DOMETTES (Date O'Noit) 15-1;
2. Sharp Shuffle 20-1; 2. Burubon Boy 51.27 ran. 9-4 far hydrust, str. nd., ni. (R Namon). Tobar 23-10; 19-30, D8-10, D2-80, D7124-680, CSF: 6330-45. That 1590-30.
2.35: 1. NAISD WELCOME U Read 101; 2. Sector Valle 3-1 far. 2. Whitechapel
1; 2. Sector Valle 3-1 far. 3. Honore 10-10; 2.10, 12-10,

8.10: 1. LIMAR MIST (R Havin) 4-1 fav; 2. Step Play 16-1; 3. White East 20-1; 4. Standown 11-1, 18 ran. 1½, nk. (M Meane). Tota: £4.50; £2.00, £3.50, £4.10, £3.10. DP. £59.20, CSP. £66.10. Ricast £1.088.71. 1 23 (1.34 3.40; 1 HARAYIR (W Carson) 13-8 fav; 2

4.50: 1. SELVER DOISE (Pet Eider)) 4-5 fer; 2. Sectio 4-1; 3. Three HBIS 18-1: 14 ran. 1/h, nk. (H Cecil. Tota: £1.70; £1.10, £1.30, £2.90, DF: £2.30, CSF: £4.63, NF: 51.30, 53.90, Dr. 12.30, CSP: 24.00, NC Bowled Over, Tror. 158.30, Jackpot: 150,309.30 (part won, £53,772.42 carried forward to Catheriel today). Pleasaget: £13.30, Quadpot: £4.90, Place 6: £143.04, Place 5: £92.18.

REDCAR 1.45: 1 QUALITY II Conce 11-2; 2, Labend 2: 3. Nikita's Star 12-1, 12 rec., 9-2 ft 1.45.1 QUARTE 10 500 12-1. 12 rats. 9-2 ft. 12-3. Neithfull 500 12-1. 12 rats. 9-2 ft. 12-3. Neithfull 500 12-1. 12 rats. 9-2 ft. 12-3. Neithfull 500 12-3. Neithfull 600 12-3. Neithfull 11-2:3. Neiton's Star 12-1. 12 res. 9-2 ft Ser Visicome Royais (4th). W. shehd. (W O'Sce-rest). Total 25-80; 22-10, 52-10, 54-50. OP. 256-00. CSP. £34-89. That £66-40.

zi 13-8 fav; 3. Prophets Honour 6-1. 4 ran. sig.hd, 6. (M Stauth), Totac £2.50. DF: £1.80. CSF: £5.84. ERT-III, D. W. SERNOW, M. C. CHEMOCK J. L. S. C. S.; E. S. S. M., BULLMA (I. CHEMOCK J. L. I.; 2. Astenirals Fizama 18-1; 3. Heidina 10-1. 14 ran. 6-4 fize Empty Quarter (5th). 1-4, nk. (R. Fattey). Rote: £16.50, £2.60, £4.80, £2.10. DF: £16.450. CSF: £158.05. Tricost: £1,654.95. Trico

RACING RESULTS

22.60, £1.90. DP. £18.40, CSP. £26.85. Tno: £22.40.
4.28: 1. GREEN LAND (K Rabon) 9-2: 2. Masternoros 5-2; 2. Wastern Horizon 10-1.
11 ran. 9-4 fev Pretons Dencer (6th), 2. 1.
(S Williams), Tota: £5.40; £2.20, £1.70, £1.70. DP. £15.60, CSP. £16.82. Tho: £31.10. Thoses: £104.24. NRs: Akoli & Marmottis. Mercretta, 5.00: 1. MOON NING (I Wester) 6-4; 2. Epoglie 4-6 for; 3. Sters Return 11-1. 3 ron.

Place 0: £1,320.90, Quadrot: £30.80, Place 0: £338.80, Place 5: £102.05.

water; 4-11 fav. 2. krie Mon 20-1; 2. Alvala Angel 18-1. 10 rms. 5, 3. (M Ppe). Totac £1.50; £1.10, £2.90, £1.90. DF. £5.50. CSF: £9.59. Thio: £2.040. NF: Ray Rose. 2.45; 1. NORTHERN STARLIGHT (F Das-combe) 7-4 fav. 2. Radgolog Royal 8-1; 3. Corrin Hill 8-1. 9 fax. 8, 2vc. (P Nichols). Rote: £2.20; £1.10, £1.70, £1.70. DF. £9.20. NFs: Alvays Ready & Little Hoolgan. 3.15; 1. STALINCH RIVAL (M A Rogerski) 15-8; 2. Lusty Agola 12-1; 3. Bold Choice 9-2. 5 rat. 7-4 fav Royal Saxon (Athl. 2/r. Yr. (G Thorner), Totac £2.20; £1.40, £1.70. DF. £1.3.90. CSF: £1.7.45.

144, 4. (R Harmon). Total: £2.90, DF: £1.20. CSP: £2.74.

Place G: £338.00, Place S: £102.05.

TAUNTON

2.15: 1. DOMERSON'S DIREAM (D Ends:

1. 10 ray, 4-5 for Person Surg (4th), 3, 76.

12:20. CSF: £58,78. Tro: £39,50.
4.20: 1. NORSE RADER (I) Brigaster) 64.20: 2. Noblety 13-8; 3. Rayman 11-1, 7
ran. 4, 10. (M Pipe) Tote: £2.90; £1.90,
£1.50. DS: £2.70. CSF: £3.99. 4.55: 1. GINGER JUM (M Clinton) 6-1: 2 4.55; 1. GMCER BM (M Chron) 6-1; 2. Chickshiddy 4-1 x for; 2. Nordic Velley 4-1 x for; 3. Nordic Velley 4-1 x for; 30 cm. 7, 10, (P Hedgen, Total 16.90; 11.90, 11. £5.40, CSF: £10.43. Tric: £10.90. Placepot: £24.60, Quantipot: £25.80 Place 8: £25.05. Place 5: £19.22.

Tete: £12.60: £2.80. £1.10, £1.70, DF

paying big wages. "Hard work and team spirit has got us this far," the club chairman, Dennis Allen, said yesterday. "We don't have a board of directors, we're a members' club with a management committee who have no monetary input apart from membership fees. We pay what we can afford from gate, advertising and bar income -we're small fry compared to neighbouring clubs like Chorley. Only two of the club's plavers have Football League experience: Nigel Greenwood. whose brother Tony is the man-

ager, was once with Preston and Bury, while Steve Senior served Wigan, "We've kept a nucleus of players as we've risen," Allen explained, "and four of our lads have been with us since the Preston and District League days. We've not spent more than £3,000 on players since we joined the pyramid." There will be no promotion celebrations this season, however, even if Bamber Bridge win

their league, for the restrictions of their Irongate ground have ruled out an application to join the GM Vauxhall Conference. "We've come so far so quickly we haven't had time to sort out the ground," Allen said, "but we've put in an application for lottery funds for that purpose." Tomorrow's visitors to Iron-

gate are Mel Sterland's Boston United side who, along with Guiseley, are poised four points behind Bamber Bridge, waiting for a slip-up by the leaders. "We've had a good run," Allen said, "but it's getting harder everyone is trying to knock us off our perch."

Sohail earns **Pakistan** revenge win

Cricket

Pakistan, still smarting from defeats in the recent home Test and one-day series by Sri Lanka, owed much to Aamir Sohail for helping them gain a measure of revenge yesterday with an 82run victory over the Sri Lankans in the Champions' Trophy in

Sharjah. Sohail scored 85, building an opening stand of 107 with Salim Elahi, to help Pakistan to 264 for 7 from their 50 overs and then took four wickets as Sri Lanka laboured to 182 for 8. Sri Lanka's batsmen struggled

against the spin trio of Sohail, Saqlain Mushtaq and Mushtaq Ahmed. Off-spinner Saqlain struck in his first over, dismissing the opener Sanath Jayasuriya for 24 and, in his next, bowled Aravinda de Silva to reduce Sri Lanka to 51 for 3. But the day belonged to So-

hail, who returned a career-best 4 for 22 after mesmerising the Sri Lankans with excellent variations in line and length.

CHAMPIONS' TROPHY (Sharjats): Palestan 264 for 7 (Aamir Schail 85, Salim Behi 50, Ingamem-ul-Heq 89r; Sn Lanka 182 for 8 (Agrar Sohali 4-22). Pakistan won by 82 rums.

★THE INDEPENDENT

Commentary 0839 - 111 175 Seaso: Burndsystem Helpline (FT) 485 5764 Calls charged at My pix wis chosp met. 4/p per min at all other times.



WORLD MATCHPLAY: Duval's fightback falls short as Japanese hopes fade quickly in the mist

Montgomerie makes a meal of it

TIM GLOVER reports from Wentworth

Colin Montgomerie went into lunch five up on David Duval in the first round of the Toyota World Match Play Championship here and the contest went the distance. Perhaps the problem is that the rotund Scotsman had a sore wrist and a rumbling stomach.

Because of a delay to the start, Montgon: rie and only 35 minutes for lunch. "That's not long enough for me," he said. He was not able to enjoy the full Monty, being restricted to sandwiches, a Mars Bar and a Coke. 'I would have had a lot more,' he said. The abbreviated break also meant that he did not have time to visit the physiotherapist.
It was lack of a leisurely

lunch that appeared to have the more disturbing effect on Big Monty. In the morning he cruised round the Burma Road in 66 to Duval's 71 and the American, making his debut at Wentworth, never captured the lead. Duval, sporting a shirt that looked as if it was sponsored by the Chelsea Flower Show, wore sunglasses in the morning when it was misty and when the sun broke through in the afternoon he discarded the shades.

Montgomerie, with birdies at the 23rd and 24th holes, remained five up and was possibly thinking of tea and crumpets when Duval won the 28th, 29th and 30th holes with two birdies and an eagle. Things were looking gaunt for Monty when he missed short putts at the 33rd and 34th holes and he went to the 35th with his lead cut to one. Duval hit a good drive down the penultimate hole but Monty natched it and, after trading birdie fours, he won by one hole

by taking control of the 36th. 'It was more of a tiring day than I anticipated," Monty said. "I had to finish four, four and I

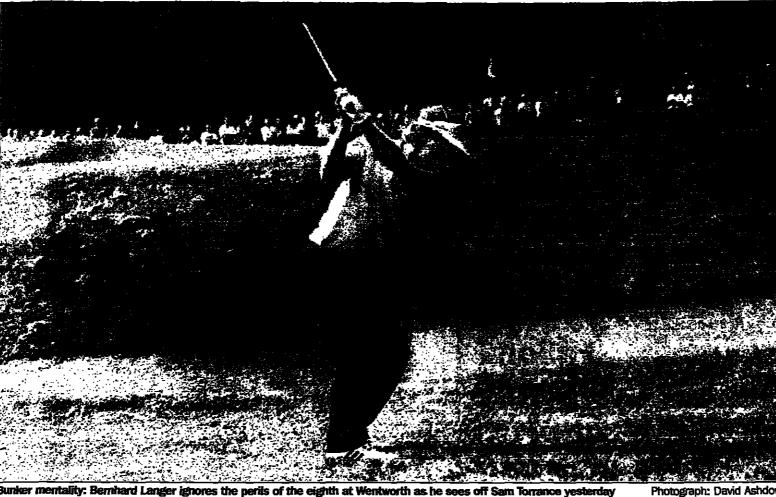
JANZEN (US) won 786

K TOMORI (Japen)

D DUVAL (US)

S TORRANCE (Sco)

B LANGER (Ger) won 584 🖰



Montgomerie plays Steve Elkington, the Australian who prewented him from winning the US PGA Championship in Los Angeles in July. In a sudden death play-off Elkington won at the first extra hole. "I only had one

The World Match Play, launched in 1964, was not averse to the odd smoker in the field when it was sponsored by Piccadilly for 13 years; Colgate came up with a bright-smiled winner in Isao Aoki in 1978 and

hole then," Monty said."This

time I've got a few more."

has been sponsored by the Japanese companies, Suntory and Toyota. Alas, the obligatory Japanese player in the field has fallen short since Aoki's achievement. The latest to make a swift exit was Katsuyoshi Tomori, beaten 7 and 6 by Lee Janzen. He was soon joined in a four-wheel drive off the Burma Road and on to the A30 by Sam Torrance who was defeat-

ed 5 and 4 by Bernhard Langer. Thus it was a case of Herr today, gone Tomori. The Japanese player, who had a good Open Championship at St Andrews,

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4 3 4 5 3 4 4 4 4 3 4 5 4 3 4 4 5 5 72

4 3 5 4 3 4 5 4 4 3 4 4 3 4 5 5 5 73

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4 3 5 4 2 4 5 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5 5 72

WORLD MATCHPLAY CHAMPIONSHIP - FIRST ROUND

4 2 4 2 4 2 4 2 4 5 4 5 4 5 4 5 5 5 88 4 1 2 3 4 5 4 5 4 5 6 5 5

was feeling under the weather. After the pro-am on Wednesday he developed a fever and called a doctor. Tomori asked to go on a drip but the doctor told him to have a shower - "not too hot and not too cold."

In the season of mists and mellow fever, Tomori had to sweat it out in the morning when fog delayed the start by two hours. "I sweated in the night and did not feel so hot," Tomori said. He went into lunch three down. "I felt OK when I started but I found my putting was affected," Tomori said. Despite four birdies in 12 holes in the afternoon he was comprehensively dispatched by Janzen who won at the 30th with an eagle.

Janzen, 1993 US Open champion and the leading money vinner on the US Tour this year, is still smarting from being omitted from the Ryder Cup at Oak Hill a few weeks ago. "I should have been picked," he said. "Winning this would make me feel a bit better." However, he added: "Most people in the States wouldn't know I'm here." Torrance was no match for Langer who hardly made a mis-

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 93 34 35 36 Teta

4 3 4 5 3 4 4 4 4 3 4 5 4 3 4 4 5 5 72

424444434534

take. On the first and third holes Torrance was disturbed by mobile phones ringing in the crowd. On the third, his caddie Malcolm Mason told a spectator: "For Christ's sake turn the bloody phone off." Torrance - in a practice round here on Tuesday he received a message on his mobile that he was to play Langer - said: "Tell them I'm not won £30,000 for his first-round exit, partners seven-year-old Daniel in a father and son com-

Tomorrow Torrance, who

petition at Halgrove School near Camberley, Surrey.

TODAY'S TEE-OFF TIMES

EELS (SA) v L Janzen (US) 3.30am and 12.45pm B Langer (Ger) v N PRICE (Zim 8.45am and 1pm

S ELKINGTON (AUS) 4 : Montgomerie (GB) 9am and 1.15om C Rocca (It) v B CRENSHAW (US)

Qualification period may be abolished

RUGBY UNION

DAVID LLEWELLYN

Twickenham is poised to abolish the 120-day qualification period which players in the top two divisions of the Courage League are obliged to serve when they register with a new club. A commission set up by the Rugby Football Union is due to publish its report at the end of the month and informed sources say that the four-month restriction could be abolished altogether. That means Rob Andrew

could be playing for Newcastle before Christmas. England stand-off half Andrew, who was appointed as Newcastle's director of rugby development three weeks ago, is serving out his time with Wasps and was not expected in the North-east until late in January.

But Newcastle are struggling near the bottom of the Second Division having won one match in their first five games and Andrew is eager to add his experience to the team in a bid to keep them out of the Third Division.

Suggestions that the qualification period was going to be abandoned have been rife and David Campbell, a director of Newcastle RFC Ltd, said yesterday: "The rumour is that the 120 days is going to be dropped at the end of this month.

Andrew promptly said: "If that is the case then I will immediately play for Newcastle, with whom I am registered." But

England's outside-half may have to wait a little longer since the commission's report, which will also make recommendations about the lower divisions' 60-day period as well as discussing the moratorium on professionalism, has to go before the RFU's executive committee and then to

the full committee. The sticking point will be when the qualification period will be abandoned. There will be arguments to retain it until the end of the season, but realistically, if pressure is brought to bear and the RFU expedite things, the end of November could be the watershed when a torrent of players may well take advantage of a little piece of rugby history.

While Andrew has to commute from London to undertake bis professional duties at Newcastle, the Gloucester captain, Dave Sims, will not have that problem. He turned profes-sional yesterday when he was appointed full-time development officer. Gloucester's chief executive, Mike Coley, said: "We did not want to risk him being tempted by another club. It's the same as Rob Andrew going to Newcastle, although Dave is not on the same sort of money."

Bath have recalled the prop Victor Ubogu a week after dropping him for not being fit or committed enough. Ubogu has been been on an intensive

week-long training programme. Will Carling will miss Harlequins' trip to Sale in order to give his strained calf muscle another week's rest.

Graf confirms Brighton entry

Tennis

Steffi Graf, the Wimbledon champion and joint world No 1 with Monica Seles, will play in the Brighton International tournament, which starts on Thesday. The German, who has been suffering from chronic back trouble this year, has not played since winning the US Open early last month.

She has always admitted that, of all the tournaments on the international circuit. Brighton is her favourite because she is able to move around the town without attracting undue attention.

When she learned that this year would be the last time the Brighton event, lacking a spon-world's top 10. Clare Wood, the sor, would be staged, the 26-year-former British No 1, is expectold was determined to play.

Earlier this week there were serious doubts about her fitness and a report that she had withdrawn from the tournament. She is also under pressure from an investigation into alleged tax evasion.

George Hendon, the Brighton promoter, said that Graf would give berself a "rigorous work-crut" at home in Germany before making a final decision. Yesterday Graf told the

Women's Tennis Association that she was "fit and well" and would be in the 28-strong field which will include Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria and the American Lindsay Dayenport, all of whom are in the ed to be given a wild card.

Hamed to keep up Goulding stakes claim Kiwi call at last for Paul the psychology

Naseem Hamed insisted yeslet-up in the psychological asbarring his way to becoming a multi-world champion.

Hamed rejected criticism that he taunted and humiliated Steve Robinson before relieving the Welshman of the World Boxing Organisation featherweight title a fortnight ago. The 21-year-old, who makes

clared: "I out-thought him, a unification fight against one outboxed him and outpunched him. I did it in style, just as I said next year. That could be on my face at the end. What do I have to do to get the credit I

said Hamed was spat at, struck by coins and suffered racial and personal abuse. "Throughterday that there would be no out it all, Hamed maintained his cool. You say he humiliated sault directed at opponents Robinson. We say he did him mentally and physically. Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard were praised for that

sort of thing," Warren claimed. Warren is talking to three possible first-defence opponents and expects to finalise negotiations for an announcement next Tuesday. He revealed that his first defence at London it is becoming difficult to find Arena on 9 December, dessuitable matches, but hopes for Ghana's Alfred Kotey, who defends the WBO bantamweight title at London's York Hall a week tomorrow.

Rugby League

Bobbie Goulding showed England's coach, Phil Larder, that he is spoilt for choice at scrum-half with a masterful display in the 46-0 thrashing of Fiji at Wigan. Goulding, a former Central Park favourite who was deputising for the England captain, Shaun Edwards, had a hand in six of his side's eight tries on Wednesday and also kicked three goals in the runaway vic-

tory, which earned England a

World Cup semi-final place. However, even that man-ofthe-match performance may not be enough to make the 23-year-old St Heleus captain England's first-choice No 7. Edwards had the role for Saturday's 20-16 defeat of Anstralia, the World Cup holders, at Wembley and it would be a considerable surprise if he has it taken away from him.

"I am in an envious position with two top scrum-halfs playing for me. I only wish we had the same strength in depth in every position. They are two world-class players," Larder

Larder will be hoping Ed-wards does not go through with his threat to retire from international rugby, which followed accusations that the Wigan captain made racist remarks to Australia's winger John Hopoate. Edwards, who was on the bench for last night's game, strongly denies the alle-

The England coach showed himself to be hard to please af- urday. After that, it will be a ter the demolition of Fiji. "I thought for the first 20 minutes our performance was pretty awesome and it probably knocked the stuffing out of the opposition, but I did feel that in the last 15 to 20 minutes we went off the boil," he said.

Graham Murray, Fiji's coach, pretty much concurred with that assessment. "They hit us hard early and we didn't see the ball for seven minutes. We found it difficult to recover." he said. "We were impressed with

Broadbent and Dean Sampson] and the half-backs [Goulding and Tony Smith]. I think England have got a great chance of winning the trophy." England were impressive in victory as they completely outclassed Fiji and they now look certain to finish top of group one with just the outsiders

England's top forwards [Paul

South Africa to come on Satsemi-final showdown with the winners of pool three, which in-volves Wales, Western Samoa and France. To judge from their first two

performances, England have no reason to fear whichever side they come up against at the next

Followers of the game in the north of England will greet the promotion of Henry Paul to tonight's starting line-up as a rare intrusion of sanity in the New Zealand selection process, writes Dave Hadfield.

The Wigan utility back, one of the most glittering talents in the sport, has so far been used only with the most extreme caution by the Kiwi coach, Frank Endacott, and there seemed little early promise that such a scandalous waste of ability would be

rectified during this World Cup. However, for tonight's game against Papua New Guinea at St Helens, Paul has selected at stand-off ahead of Gene Ngamu. Apart from the enforced change which sees Gary Freeman in for the disgraced Syd Ero, a match that New Zealand need only win or draw to reach the semi-finals sees the recall of Jason Williams in place of sion of Mark Horo for Tony Iro. One surprise, however, is that there is no place for the vice captain, John Lomax, who is now clear of suspension.

Martin Offiah is likely to be fit to play for England against South Africa tomorrow and Gary Connolly will attempt to train for the first time since his bout of pneumonia on Monday. Australia have instigated a number of changes to their line-

up for their third qualifying match tomorrow. Robbie O'Davis and Brett Dallas are given the wing spots for the clash with the Fijians, while Andrew Johns is in at hooker. His goalkicking prowess is required in the absence of Rod Wishart, out of this match with a slight thigh strain. Gary Larsen will play after being drafted in to replace the injured Paul Harragon.

NEW ZEALAND (Group Two v Papus New Culcon, St. Helson, today); Ridge (Wark; capt); Hoppe (Auditand), Blackmore (Auditand), WW (Carbord), Williams (Sydny Buldog); Paul

City).

PAPILA NEW GURNEA: Buke (Corolea): Kope (Hogen Eagles), Sonnia (Corolea), Oleal (Moore-born), Kouserr, Gene (Corolea), Lass (Sydney Cry, Capt), New (Menth, Muntais), Pulpe (Port Moresby), Wassier, TriA, Angen Double Hogen Engles), Mammando, Subetimines: Tola (Merchis), Collect (Robaul), Ball, Shi (Port Moresby).

World Cup update England (30) England (30) —46 Feb (8) —45 F

PICK OF THE DAY SUNDAY / Motor Racing British F3 Championship Thruston

The 18th and final round of the British Formula Three Championship at Thruxton on Sunday is heading for a thrilling conclusion as the title is far from won. Ralph Firman, from Norfolk, was the chempionship leader until the two previous rounds at Silverstone last weekend. After six wins in the first 14 rounds, he looked the favourite for the title, but at Silveaving in the first race and finished outside the points in the second. In stepped Oliver Gavin. The Bedford driver was unable to finish in the first race, but then. won the second to equal Firman on 172 points. The third driver in contention is Helio Castro Neves, Firman's team-mate at Paul Stewart Racing. Nine points adrift, the Brazilian may have won only one race this season, but his consistency has kept him in touch with the leaders.

COUCH WITH THE RESIDENS.
Have be get them: Thruston Clearle is the miles
west of Andorec, Hampetine, on ASCS, 1½
hours from Landon and less then en hour
from Southermoon and Receipt. (Bet
02264 '772998', Qualifying starts at
9.10am, with recing from 20m. Admission:
D9 admis, children free, stands and paddock extra, parking free.

GOLF: Rayota World Match Play Championship (Wentworth), Admission: £20 adults, children half-price, Wentworth Chub, Wentworth Drive, Virgina Water, is shusted at junction of A30 and A329, eight miles from junction 13, M25. (Fer. 01344 642201).

RUGBY LEAGUE: Haldar. Centenary World Cup Group Iwo: New Zeeland v Papus New Guinea (St Helens, 8.0). TENNES Merris and women's samilines (Birm-Ingriam). First singles final is of 11.30am and speciating is free. Bitlesley indoor Tennis Cen-tre. Wheelers Lane, Bitlesley, Birmingham. (Fel: 0121 441 4222). TOMORROW

Insurance Loague and Scottern League programmes.

RUGSY LEAGUE: Hatifax Rugby League Centensay Work Cup Group One? Australia v Fig.
(Huddersfeid, 2.0); England v South Africa
(Headingley, 7.0);

RUGSY UNION: Courage: Clubs' Chemproviship, Heinelen Weish League, Tennents
Scottesh Championship Prenier League and
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RACING (Fint meetings in capitalist: CATTENGAY, Championship 58; Course £2
Lunder 16s the initional and sendourses, (2.05).
NEWMARROET: Chub £23 (1.6 to 25-year-olds)
£10); Grandstand and Paddorck £11, (16 to
25-year-olds) £11; Sherr Ring £5. (1.45).
WOLVESHAMPTON (AM Weather): Membres
£15; Grandstand £6 (17.0). Nelsee Chib £12;
Tantersals £6 (CAPS £3, scoompanied under16s tree). (2.0). Keemphose Chib £13, Junion,
£16 to 25-year-olds) £12; Grandstand £10;
Shlver Ring £5. (2.15). Strattforth Chib £12;
Tattersals £6; Course £4, (2.25).
CANNEENG: National Championship Series

latteraelis ES; Course £4. (2.25).
CANDEINE: National Champtonship Series
(Notingstam). Places in the British Olympic
traning squad at the eighth and minth round
are at stake. Practice is from 8.30am and
8.15am on Sunday, racing is from 10am both
days. Pening is £1. National Water Sports Contre. Addoctors lene. Hother Plesreport, is two
miles south-east of Notingham on AS2. Scottish Exhibition (Penis). A variety of equipment

will be on show, accompanied by tails and show. Demonstrations and by-out sessions also feeture. The exhibitions is open from 10am to 5pm tomorrow and 10am-4pm on Sunday. Admission: 52 adults, 51 feet to 12-year-olds. Selks Sports Centre, 14y Street, Perth. Scottish Surf Championships (Thurso). The championships have been postponed until 11-12 November.

ponships have been postponed until 11-12 November.

CYCLO-CEROSS: Notes and Derby League (Derby). The first race in the third round is at 1pm, with the main race at 2.15pm. Measure Park is off A6, three miles north of Derby city centre. Store Wheelars (Newcastle-under-Lyme). 120pm and 2.30pm. We Read Sports Ground, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford-shire, at reached from junction 18 of M6 via left furns into Scabridge Lane and Wye Read. Weetah CCA coacting and Teahing day (Nergasenny). 11am. Abergawany Lesure Centre. Cyclists v Harriers (Brigger). 2.30pm on Baidon Moor. Roce heedquarvers: Fisherman's Inn., Bingley, West Yorkshire.

EQUESTRIANISM: Bishop Burton Horse II-las (Beverley). More than 400 earlies from pre-noxice to advanced riders. Keren Dion features in the senior section. Tomorow, dressage is at 8.15em, with show jumping starting at 9.20pm and cross-country at 10.20pm. Admission: £5 per cas. Bishop Burton College is eight miles from M62 on A1079 York to Hut road and three miles west of Beverley.

SYMMASTICS: British Schools Regional Championships. The juriors (under-12) compasten championships. The juriors (under-12) compasten championships from 10am. Admission: 53, Developing Leisure Cantre is in the trans centre.

MOTORCYCLING: Neithord Cup Sneuterton). Practice in the final round starts at 9am. with

MOTORCYCLING: National Cup (Snetterton). Practice in the final round starts at Sem, with reading from Jam. Admission: EA addsts, children free. On Sunday, practice is from Sem and the first rape is at 11.2m. EB and fire. Snetterton Creat, Novich, Norfolt, is between Thetard and Atlieborough on A11 (01953) 8873031.

JUST THE TICKET: a weekly guide to what's on where for the sporting spectator terrationals set out at 10am, followed by runners in the National Event Six at 11am. There will be colour-coded course for beginners and châdren. The running area is four miles from Strachen, which is on A974, south-east of Banchory on A93 Aventeen road. On Sunday, the home international relay steria at 10am, the sive is eightposted at the Potenth Bridge over the River Des, seven miles west of Sanchory on A93 rear Nocardina O'Ned, Gramplain. TEMPRIA BOWLING: PTBC Duristable. Play in the British ranking event starts at 11.30am tomorrow and at 98m on Sunday, Speciating is free. GX Supertowl, Court Drive. Duristable, Bedhardshire, (list 0.1582 472727).

POOTEALL: PA Carling Premiership: Shaffield Wednesday'v Middlesbrough (4,0). Endsleigh Langue Rist Dwiston: Port Vale v Crystal Palace (2,55). RELIGIBY LEAGUE: Hairfax Centenary World Cup Group Three: Wates v Western Samoa (Votch Field, Swensee, 6.0). RUGBY UPSON: Insurance Corporation Irish League First Owision: Ckd Wesley v Lanadowne (2.30).

22.30).
CLAY PICEON SHOOTING: tritemational All Round Grand Prix (Beverley). East Yorkshire GC, Charry Burton, is between A1079 York road and B1246, near Beverley (Ret 01964 551134). National frate-countries English Sporting (Shagborough). Competitions starts at 10em and speciating is free. Shugborough Shooting School, Geologie Park, Wolseley Bridge, Staffordshire, is off A513 Rugeley to Stafford road. (Ret 01869 881391).

Total Occasions. Section road. (Ret CLISSE 983.391).

ChiCLO-GROSS: Ipswich BC. First race 1,0em, mein race 1.30pm. The course is next to Foxhall Specificary Saddum, Ipswich, Strolle, Wohlerhampton Wheelers, 11.30em and 1.15pm. Aldersley Saddum is 1½ miles nothing of the section of the sectio August of Wokertempon town centre, signossiation A448 Stafford road. North-Eastern senes (Stackton-on-Rest). Diam and noon. Peston Perk, Yerm Road, Eagleschie, on A135 Yam road from A66 Daringen to Middlestrough road. Middleton CC (Electicy). noon and 1.30pm. Boggist Hole Chough, Blackey. Greater Manchester, is all A576 Middleton Cod. Intelligence Manchester, de-chough Cod. Jan. 4856 Minchester, de-chough.

tion 18 of M82. Bistol Road Cab. 10.15 and 11.mm. Hangrove Park is south of A4174 Brack Ining road. CC Abergaveinry (Clasticup-on-Wye). 10.45 and 11.30 an. Pen y Gen Hill farm, Glaschury-on-Wye, Powys, is off B4350 and A438, four miles south of Ney-on-Wye. Poute Wheelers (Windoome). 110.30 am and 1.15 pm. North Carlturd Heath is on A341 between Bere Cross and Windoome, fault males north of Poole, Dorset. Firstia Five Foods CC (Huddomfeld). 11 am and 1.45 pm. Royds Hall School, Luck Lane Paddiols, Hutdersfield, West Vortainire, Postpaesed: Derventiside CC (no 22 October). Cannecillact Cherry Valley RT (Cassor). Charcenourt CC (Addingson Hills). MOTOR RACENGE Championship Racedley (Mationy Part). The operating reces of the Formula Vaudhall and Formula Vaudhall Inforwenter series chempionships. Qualitying is from 9.30 am, with the first race at 1.45 pm. Admission: 26.50 adults, children free. Mellony Park is off A47 at Kirthyy Mallon, Leicessarshire, between Leicester and Hindi-ley. (No. 10.455 842931).

NOOL Week

Next week

Next. week
FOOTBALL (7:30 unless stated): MondayFR, Carling Premiership: Windscrow West
Ham (8:0). Auto Wisstscross Shield Southoon Section First resed: Group Three: Peterborough v Northampton (7:45), Teseday: Uefn Cap Second round first legAusarre v Notbagham Forest (Abbé-Deschanos Stadum, 7:15); Brondby Ukerpool (Brondby Stadum, 8:0); Leeds v PSV EIndhover (8:0); Fasti v Bayern Munich (EsserRodd Stadum, Echough (8:0), Asbo Windsorema Shield First round: Northam Section Group Geor Crew v Harrispool. Group
Hwat Rotherham v Burnley, Broup Three:
Crestariald v Notis County, Group Five: Soutrhope v Bury, Group Sic: Weerhant v Volt.
Group Sevent Hull v Preston. Group Figure
Baschord v Canide (7:45), Southern Section
Group Ones Swinsten v Leyton Orient. Group
Twee Cardiff (7:45), Group Five: Rentiford v Eister (7:45). Group Five: Rentiford v Eister (7:45). Group Sic: Rentiford v Eister (7:45). Group Sic: Brentford v Eister (7:45). Wednesday: Europeem Cap
Champions' Leegue Group & Legle Wersey

Richard Barnett and the inclu-

v Sackum (Woista Potskiego, Warsaw, 8.30). Group C: Juvenus v Rengers (Delle Apl Stadium, Turin, 8.30). Trianaday: European Cup Wienners' Cop Second cound first leg; Everton v Reyencord (7.45); Parls St-Germain v Cetac (Perc des Princes, 8.30). Trianaday: Element v Cetac (Perc des Princes, 8.30). Trianaday: Clark Mistaches: Cambridge Unit v Corwestey's Walsh XV (7.15); Cross Keys v Porthyptidd (7.0); Eveter v Exetar Unit (7.30); Narherth v Landousry (7.0); Newtondige Unit v Corwestey's Walsh XV (7.15); Cross Keys v Porthyptidd (7.0); Newtondige v South Walse Police (7.0); Newtondige v Sackonstrue (Northernett - 21. County Chempionships Midlands Police (7.0); Newtondige v Sackonstrue (Northernetton, 7.30); Notta, Lincs and Derbys v Werwickschie (Politicingsam, 7.15). Cab Matchest: Pontypod v Swenses (7.0); Politici (Northernetton, 1.15); Notta Lincs and Derbys v Werwickschie (Politicingsam, 7.15). Cab Matchest: Pontypod v Swenses (7.0); Politici (Northernetton, 1.15); Notta and Derbys v Werwickschie (Politicingsam, 7.15). Cab Matchest: Pontypod v Swenses (7.0); Politici (1.45), Politici (1.15); Tottanada S (1.15); Politici (1.15); Nottanada (1.15)

RICEY LEAGUE: Saturday: Hellor Centerley World Cup Semi-final: Winners Group 1 v Win-ners Group 3 (Old Yarlford, 3.0). Sanday: Haj-dax Centerly World Cup Semi-final: Winners Group 2 v Winners Group 4 (McAlpine Stadi-um, Huddersfield, 3.0).

Group 2 v Wirners Group 4 (McAlpine Stadium, Huddessfeld, 3,0).

RUGBY UNDON: Saturday: A International:
Wiese A v Fij (Endgand, 2.30). Courage Cubs'
Crempionship, Rements Scottian Champoratily Premer League and Insurance Corportion his heague.

RACING: Saturday: DONCASTER: as Finday.
(1.40). NEWBURY: as Thursday. (1.30).

Geritalis: Club E12; Tattersalis 15; (OAPs. E3).
(1.55). Humflighten Mernherz £12; Tattersals £8; Course £4, 215). Wednesters Mernhers £12; Fottersalis £9; Course £4, 50
(OAPs £2.25). (2.05). Sunday: WethnesterClub £12 teccompanied under 16s free); Tattersalis £1; Course £2 (OAPs £3) (cars. vichuffig up to A soluts £9; (1.30). Wirecanios:
Members £12.50 (Lunior Members, 17 to 22
years, £5.50; Tattersalis 59; Course land cars
to Course) £4. (Under-16s free into all opdiocures). (1.45).

Plan abased

Plan abead

Pian albead

Next month's Network Q RAC Rally, the final round of the FIA world championship, could provide a crowring end to the season for last year's winner. Colin McRae, the first British winner of the rally since 1976, is lying second in the championship behind the Finn, Juha Karikumen, with two rounds remeiring, and British has yet to win the world title.

and shrain has yet to win the world fi-tle. This year's RAC Raily, from 19 to 22 November, starts and thishes in Chester. In between, the raily will have completed high-speed special stages through the Midards, the Scottish Borders, the Lake District and Wales. The first day of the raily allows speciations to watch the cars at venues with easy access, parking and facilities. Parkiand, statisty homes and a racing circuit are some of the venues making up the day's stages over gravmaking up the day's stages over gra-el and tarmac.

This year spectators can meet the drivers and see the cars at the Raily Show at Chester racecourse on the Seturday. For further information, the Network Q RAC Raily Official Guide is available from TRMG, Newcastie-upon-Tyne, priced £8.25.

Network Q RAC Raily, 19-22 November

2 1 0 1 52 52 2 2 0 0 2 12 136 0

Network O RAC Holly, 19-22 November Reby Ston, Orester Roccourto (Saturday, 18 November, macrite centre of the city on A545). 12-30-4pm. Admission: 25 adules, 21 children under 16.

His kel Standay, Chester to Lucata): Stanc East-gate Street (8.10cm). Special Stage 1: Tatton Park, one mile north of Mausstard. Chestate, on A50: first cent semi. SS2: Chaissouth House Inline miles west of Chester-field, Debty-shire, 10.35cm). SS3: Chaissouth Fact (Inc. miles south of Worksop, Derby-shire, 12.25pm). SS4/5: Derby-gate, 12.25pm). SS4/5: Derby-gate, 12.25pm, SS4/5: Derby-gate, 13.25pm, SS6/5: Ratter Valley (note Rocherland, 3.55pm). SS7: Earnge Valley (incorrections side of Locds. 5pm). Finish of Park (castom side of Locds. 5pm). Finish of 2.08pm and 2.21pm). SSE: Romer Valley InderRotherham. 3.55pm). SSE: Romer Valley InderRotherham. 3.55pm). SSE: Romer Valley InderRotherham. 3.55pm). SSE: Romer Valley.

Restorm side of Loods. Spm). Finate of leg: Leeds Art Gallery (5.07pm). Apart from start and finish, admission elegages to list leg stages are £7 odules. £1 cription under 16. Second leg (Mondari): Loods to Chester via Mielder Forest. Scotish borders and late Dis-trict. Third leg (Russday): Chester to Chester via compail and south west Wales. Fourth log (Mednesday): Chester to Chester via central and north Violes. Spectator Internation line: 0891 331331. Nemork O'Oliotel Rath Programme. Newsastio-upon-Tyne X, NEBS 9FS, £8.25 (£9.75 orescess). Posts choques should be made out to Triatal. Credit scards: 0191 417 6400.

Details of forthcoming events with information on tickets and venues should be sent to: The Sports Desk, The Independent, I Cana-da Square, Carary Wharf, London E14 5DL, Fax: 0171 293 2894.

Compiled by Paul Maher



nies), Solbert (Robaul), Bail, Bhil (Port Moressy).
AUSTRALIA (Group Once y Fig., Michiphe Bladium, Hudderstörd, Lownerrong Basather (Sydney Tiges); O'Dente (Neucasto), Copne St Georgia, Mig (Marth), Deliac (Sydney Buildogs), Hitler (Permit, Caro), Rousey (Marth); Carol (Marth), A. Johns (Neucasto), Pay (Sydney Buildogs), Menatos (Marth), Lurena (North Sydney), Dymock (Sydney Buildogs), Solbetitalest Smith (Sydney Buildogs), Mores (Marth), Lurena (North Sydney), Dymock (Sydney Buildogs), Mores (Marth), Lurena (Marth).

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL VERDICT: Venables vitriol Charlton challenge Brown blast Gould grievance Forward thinking a priority for England

GLENN MOORE

Luton Airport was cloaked in fog when England's footballers arrived back from Norway in the early hours of yesterday morning. It was a depressingly ap-propriate sight, a few hours earlier the direction of the Eng-land team had seemed equally

While a goalless draw away to Norway is not a bad result, it was achieved through an ordinary performance. In its aftermath Terry Venables, normally so keen to emphasise performance before result, was singing a different tune. "If that was a qualifying match we would have done the job. It is a good result," Venables said.
"I was happy with everyone."

It was a bizarre asse While David Seaman enhanced his reputation, and Steve Stone's brief appearance showed promise, Tony Adams and Gary Pallister were the only other players to emerge with credit. Having gained a clean sheet, away from home, against difficult opposition, they and Seaman had every right to feel pleased.

However. Adams and Pallister had only proved what everybody knows, against opponents whose attacking ideas are built on set-pieces and brute force they are as good as anyone in the game. Adams must have felt he was in the middle of an Arsenal training session under George Graham, almost every Norway attack was precipitated by a throw-in or corner.

Stopping Norway, never the most creative of teams, is one thing, but breaking them down is another kettle of herring entirely. Where the central defenders, and the rest of the team, was found wanting was in using the ball. With Norway defending deep and in numbers the situation cried out for a defender capable and willing to carry the ball towards them, attacking the space and commit-

ting their opponents. One can understand why Venables is reluctant to criticise his players. Graham Taylor did so and eventually lost them. Club managers are often scathing in their criticism - Frank Clark has inspired several improved performances by such means. But, while a chastened club player will be back in action within a week, an intermediated may be left to an international may be left to



Blue mood: the England bench is a picture of concern during Wednesday's night's goalless draw against Norway in Oslo

One player who has received Venables' fullest backing is Alan Shearer. He has been included in all but one of Venables' 13 selections - be was injured for the goalless draw with Uruguay-but has scored only against Greece and the United States. His last goal was 13 months and more than 12 hours of football ago.

That stinks. Tel

ther forward on Wednesday, the suspicion remains that Shearer is better suited to playing in a control the chief requirements for a lone role are not, by international standards, exceptional. It is his reactions, shooting and strength that im-

than balls in to feet. However, he may have Dar-

flick-ons and crosses rather

partnership, as he does at ren Anderton and Paul Gas-Blackburn. His pace and close coigne back to supply him for coigne back to supply him for England's next match, against Switzerland at Wembley next month. David Platt, if fit, can also expect a recall, if only for the goals he provides. With John Barnes also back in contention

England may have a complete-ly reshaped midfield. But do not expect Matt Le Tissier to be recalled, even though his passing might have opened up Norway's stifling defence. Norway's lack of ambition was partly dictated by their next

match, away to the Netherlands on 15 November. As-

Luxembourg at home the same night, Norway must gain a draw to qualify for the European Championship - and put the Netherlands out.

Only two teams are certain of being here next summer, Spain

and Russia, the winners of Groups Two and Eight. Most of the following will also be here: The turnin syndrome: Hugh Bateson fears that the tabloids are turning on El Tel

Stand by to "length special section of the first time has been squad and Les Ferdinard from during the 1988 competition—to fur the frequency state of the Osio game, and before he the first time in the name of the Osio game, and before he the first time in the name of a new low in the England coach. Our pediagrances when the Mile. September's goalless that was treated similarly in 1992 reception by the faticid places, for extended that his opening 10 with Colombia, was greeted—especially after the substitution of Gary Lineker. It will be the first time and the first time in order of the first time in order of the first time in the substitution of Gary Lineker. So at least Veriables knows sale, make let an offer he can't prevailing the was that the first produced in the time he needed to solve the European of the Colombia was greeted to be saled to solve the European of Cary Lineker. So at least Veriables knows sale, make let an offer he can't prevailing the was that the sale build up to the European of the critics as recently as tune, not take the sale of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as recently as tune, the selection of the critics as the critics and the critics as the critics as the critics and the critics as the critics as the critics as the critics as the critics are cr

The Top Burger state of the predictors of the pr

GUY HODGSON

It has not taken Bobby Gould

long to learn an essential part

like he had been born and

bred sharpening his claws in

Tiger Bay.
The Wales manager's tar-

gets were the BBC (mainly) and

Terry Venables (partially) which

was tub-thumping stuff follow-ing a rousing display from his players against the team ranked

third in the world. The Welsh

Hodgson set for release to Inter

CLIVE WHITE

As it turned out, Roy Hodgson, rather than Terry Venables, was the Englishman whom Internazionale sought as their new coach and the man who has all but steered Switzerland to the finals of the European Championship confirmed vesterday that he planned to accept the Italian club's lucrative offer.

That, however, will depend upon the Swiss expressing their gratitude for the success the south Londoner has heaped upon them in three and a half years by releasing him from his contract which is not due to expire until after next summer's finals in England. The understanding is that they will do just

Speaking in the wake of his team's 3-0 victory over Hungary that all but sealed their qualification, the 48-year-old former Bristol City manager said: "I can't turn down an offer from a club of Inter's calibre. That kind of gift doesn't fall into a trainer's lap every week."

Hodgson, who has been the subject of overtures from the English Football Association in their search for a new technical director, will meet Swiss federation officials today.

Swiss fans are hoping that Hodgson, who as a player found his level at non-League with Maidstone, will be allowed to combine club and country du-Ireland or Austria and two ties. Hodgson, who has reportedly been offered a salary of from Norway, the Netherlands and the Czech Republic. Two of £600,000 a year by Inter, said: the above will have to play off "I would be enchanted if that possibility arose."

Helenio Herrera, who coached Inter in their glory days in the Sixties, however, believes Hodgson is the wrong man for the job. "I have never known any really talented English coaches," he said.

Blackburn are hoping to have the signing of the Dundee United and Scotland midfielder Billy McKinlay for £1.75m completed in time for him to play against Southampton tomorrow. They were also yesterday "tying up the loose ends" on the Norwegian Lars Bohi-nen's £700,000 transfer from

Nottingham Forest. can Ferguson, not due to be released until the new year, could miss virtually the rest of the season if he is further ordered to complete a 12-match ban imposed by the Scottish Football Association over the headbutting incident which led to his imprisonment.

The ban was put on hold until after the result of the court proceedings, and a Scottish FA spokesman said yesterday that Ferguson's appeal would be heard by a three-man tribunal on a date to be set. Everton are hoping that if their striker's appeal fails, the ban will run concurrently with the prison sentence.
The Football League has

made a desperate plea for a change in National Lottery rules after research revealed clubs have lost £3m since its introduction because of losses from scratch card schemes and pools contributions.

of Welshness is to hold a grievto be in with a shout." way to be positive. Not at that to-the-wall miserliness with Don dispatch a penalty and soon ance against the English. Yesheaded a second, though Niall stage. It's bloody common The bottom line, as Big Jack Revie's Leeds, is to counsel cauterday, the morning after a is wont to say, is that his team tion and damage-limitation. Quinn was the unsung hero. Argood performance against Ger-Bryan Hamilton, the Northmust beat Portugal to finish top He was under the impression tur Zakreshevskis stuck to him many, the man from across the Bristol Channel sounded

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Fear, tension, euphoria, relief. The Republic of Ireland experienced a gamut of emotions in the course of defeating Latvia in Dublin. That was nerveracking enough. The climax to Group Six threatens to be the stuff of coronaries.

Before their summer collapse, the Republic were perhaps tempted to view next month's visit to Portugal as a celebratory jaunt. A few days in the autumn sun at Estoril, then into Lisbon to toast the formality of qualification for another beano: the European Championship fi-nals in England.

static that there is still all to play for, they expect to transport 4,000 fans to the Stadium of Light. But Jack Charlton, who later admitted that he would "probably" resign if the Re-public failed to make it, could muster no more than: "It's nice

and guarantee their progress. A draw might be enough to take them through as runners-up, especially if Northern Ireland upset Austria. Two years ago it was the Republic who went to Belfast to secure the point that confirmed their passage to the

This time, they could yet be

It looks different now. The forced as one of the two second- to be Charlion's last in Dublin, travel agents may have been ec- placed teams with the worst the best that can be said is that off, Charlton let slip the kind of records to play-off at Anfield on 15 December.

Charlton is not a man for mus-ing on the maths of it all. Nor is he the type of who, needing a win, sets out to secure it by swashbuckling attack. His instinct, honed over years of backs-

that Portugal had already qual-ified. In fact, having lost at Lansdowne Road and with results between the leading teams counting in the event of their finishing level on points, they will be desperate to avoid a defeat which could see them

the Republic woo. He appeared almost obsessed beforehand by the problems one of Europe's fledging nations might cause. His players, unsurprisingly, looked short of confidence and lacked sibly, his nine-year reign.
The ball should never have

the old intensity before scoring. John Aldridge stayed calm to like a tattoo, and a more volatile striker might have been screaming for a penalty at the instant Quinn selflessly set up Steve Staunton in the prelude to the breakthrough.

Lisbon holds key to Republic's fate Gould rages against

Trepidation swept across the squeezed out. late Latvian reply. Tracing its If Wednesday's match proves origins back to an Irish cross

confession which may count against him when the dust settles on this campaign and, pos-

been delivered to that area," he said. "We should've been playing for corners then. It's not my

ern Ireland manager, has promised the Republic his team will try to help them qualify by beating Austria in Belfast on 15 November. "I will say good luck to Jack and the Republic if they qualify," he said. "I felt all along stadium like a shadow after a that Portugal and the Republic late Latvian reply. Tracing its would go through. They were the

> had lost 2-1 but gained enough confidence for Gould to attack from strength.
>
> Radio Five Live was his particular target and its attention has happened and sincerely on Wednesday night to reports on England's friendly at the expense of Wales, who, after all,

were playing in a European Championship qualifying "There's more countries than England," he said, "and we de-

stood up to anything in my career it's about being cheated. That national radio station needs to get its act together. I feel cheated for the players, cheated for the supporters and I feel cheated for the staff. It's

a disgrace."

radio and England

Photograph: David Ashdowr

Switzerland, Turkey, Croatia,

Portugal, Bulgaria, Germany, Scotland, Italy, the Republic of

at Liverpool on 13 December.

The draw is made four days lat-

will decide their spring oppo-nents. After Switzerland they

host Portugal on 12 December.

The FA hopes to arrange four

matches in the new year with

Croatia and France likely op-

ponents - as long as neither is

The success of the security op-

eration in Norway has also raised

the prospect of another game

overseas. Sweden, who have

failed to qualify for Euro '96, are

possibilities with February a

likely date. Since that is just four

championships, they will need to

return in better shape then from

drawn in England's group.

Who England are drawn with

er in Birmingham.

Gould contacted the BBC on Wednesday and yesterday to express his anger and he will be on the phone again over the next few days to Lancaster Gate. This time it will be to continue pestering for a match between Wales and England, something he suggested to Venables within days of his appointment 10 weeks ago.

"T've heard nothing since," Gould said. "He's got dates available why doesn't he pick up the offer? It's a great game for the country. I think he's afraid

of playing us.
"I'm going to keep knocking
on the door because I know the match would be good for English football. He will learn more from playing us than he will with some of the games England have taken part in. We are not a a second-class nation. We are a very good football side and

TODAY'S NUMBER

31.2m

The dollars (£20.2m) that the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games is to spend on the opening and closing ceremonies next summer. The increase of a third on the earlier figure of \$24.2m is being financed by a surge in ticket

Scotland pick up the bill for McAllister's injury It left the Leeds manager The Scotland captain was Howard Wilkinson, angry over

The Scottish Football Association's insurance brokers are to oay Gary McAllister's wages antil he is fit again following the Leeds United midfield player's njury against Sweden on Wednesday night in Stockholm.

taken off on a stretcher after suffering ligament damage in the 57th minute of the 2-0 defeat and will miss the Premiership match with Arsenal tomorrow and the Uefa Cup second round, first leg match against PSV Eindhoven at Elland Road on Tuesday.

American football

for part of the game. Yet he was

Brown and the player that, if Gary wasn't fit he wouldn't play, and if he was fit he wouldn't play, and if he was fit he would only turn out land but in general." carried off after nearly an hour. perately disappointed that this the European Championship.

ball is concerned, in all my

But Brown said: "I'm des-

hope it it will not impair our relationship with Leeds or mine with Howard Wilkinson." Russia's European victory over Greece means Scotland will be second in Group Eight and almost certain of qualifying for

SPORTING DIGEST

Football

Drugs in sport Drug testing at next summer's Olympic Games could include a procedure to da O. ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP Group A.: Genoa 4 Luton O; Perugia O Birmingham 1; Oldham O Casens O Port Vale 2 Ancona O. Stroup B: Brescia 2 Ipswich 2; Registra 1 Southend 1; Stoke 2 Salernitana 2; West Bromwich 1 Fogga 2.

GOLF DESEST TOURNAMENT (Rokyo) Londing first-round scores (Japea unless stated); 66 8 Watts (US); 67 M Kuramoto, Hueda, Rhalajina, Muhara, Yakamoto, Hueda, 68 5 Hajash, T Maruyarna, R Gatson (Carl), T Balassid, T Higa, S Yokoto, H Melarice 98 Setzwa, T Kaluzwa, T Caala, C Le-ming (Isi), N Yoshino, K Suquid.

Traplett, B Class:

LAP GRAND FIHALE TOURDAMENT (Quinta do Peru, Por) Leading tirst-round scoress 68 M kurnicill (Eng., S Little (Eng., P Sjoland (Swe), J Steenhamer (Nerh); 89 E Bolognasi (II); 70 A Sandywell (Eng., T Gogele Gen, T Bjorn (Den), M Reale (ID, J Rask (Swe), M Person (Swe), Selected 68: 71. R Edwards, S Hurley, W Bennett; 72 M McGuire, S Field, R Russelt; 73 R Wilson, A Collson, D Lee.

ice hockey

Rugby Union The Llanelli lock Tony Copsey, banned for 10 weeks by the Welsh Rugby Union for breaking the checkbone of the Cardiff centre Mike Half, will not play again un-

Speedway
PREMER LEAGUE: Hull 54 Peterborough 42.
THREE-TEAM TOURNAMENT CHALLENGE-Longaston 26, Cradley Heath 33, Wohen-hampton 25, Cradley Heath 69, Longeoton

SERKO SUPER TENNIS TOURNAMENT (Tokyo): Men's singles, third round: H Holm (Swe) bt 7 Marun (US) 6-2 3-8 6-4; M Pháppoussis (Aus) bt 8 Steven (NZ) 7-8 6-3; A Volkov (Rus) bt 1 Etingi (Noth) 3-6 8-4 7-5; H Dreekmann (Ger) bt 7 Stark (US) 4-6-6-3-6-4; M Crarg (US) bt 7 Hasek (Swit 6-1 6-3; R Krajcek (Niem) bt R Rurian (It) 6-3 6-2; B Black (Zim) bt 8 Bruguora (Sp) 6-1 7-6; G Ivansewc (Cros) bt K Carisen (Den) 6-4 6-7 6-3. Doubles quarter-fisable: Expend and P Hearnis (Nem) bt Morn) bt D

(Den) 6-6.7 6-3. Doubles quarter-fi-rats: Bongh and P Hearhuls (Neth) to D Adams (Aus) and S Lareau (Cen) 4-6.7-5. 6-4; Hasek and P McEnne (US) 5-6.3 7-6. (Cen) and P Gabrath (US) 3-8.6-3.7-6. rear (com) and P Gabreith (US) 3-8 6-3 7-8. ISRAEL OPEN (Icl Auth) Man's singles sec-ond round: F Fettierlen (Den) bit T Muster (Aut) 6-2 6-7 6-1; J Sanchez (Sp) bit E Ran (Sr) 3-5 7-5 7-5; S Pessolido (U) bit A Thoma (Gar) 6-3 7-6; J Paimer (US) bit R Frombarg (Aut) 7-6 7-5. CZECH INDOOR TOURNAMENT (Ostrava Men's singles second round: W Ferrent (SA) bt M Damm (Cz Rep) 6-4 7-6. ITA AUTUMAN SATELLITE (Birmingham) Men's singles semi-dinats: C Geocher (CB) bt G Mandi (Aut) 7-6 4-6 7-8; R Koenig (SA) bt B Cowan (GB) 6-3 6-4.

ot is coman (GR) 6-3 5-4.
WOMBINS PORSCHE GRAND PROX (Filder-stadf, Ger) Second round: M Pierce (Fr) by S Appetiments (Bel) 6-2 6-3; G Sabotini (Arg) by J Halard-Decugs (Fr) 7-5 6-2; B Schutz-McCarthy (Negth) by M McGarth (US) 3-6 6-3 6-3; P Begerow (Ger) by C Martinez (Sp) 6-4 6-3; A Huber (Ger) by N Tauciet (Fr) 3-6 5-1 6-4.

Rugby League HALIFRX CENTENARY WORLD CUP GROUP TWO New Zealand v Papsan New Goisea (8.0) (at St Helens)

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Football BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF BRELAND Premier Division: Bohemisms v St Patriche Ath (7.45); Coft City v Shelhoume (7.45); RONGA LEAGUE OF WALES: Inter Condit v Atan Lido (7.30).

Other sports

GOLF: Toyota World Match Play Championship (Wenworth).

Training trip lands teams in trouble

There are likely to be some strange results in tomorrow's Women's National League pro-gramme, writes Bill Colwill. This is due to the Great Britain layers being absent from their dub sides because of a training Frip to Spain, which has been prought forward a few days. Lesley Hobley, captain of he defending champions, Slough, who will missing several of their leading lights, said: "I m extremely disappointed and

Justrated. We have a bare 11

missing their three internaionals for the visit of Hightown, while Clifton and Ipswich will

oth be missing a player as the wo unbeaten teams clash.

or the visit of Doncaster." Sutton Canada Life will be The National Football League will allow Deion Sanders to play for the Delies Cowboys, but said his seven-year, \$35m (£22.5m) contract must be restructured to meet salary-cap rules. Sanders will be take to the field for the Cowboys as more as the restructates from existence. be take to the field for the Cowboys as soon as he recuperates from surgery on his left ankle. Under Senders' deal with the Cowboys, his salary during the first three years is at the league minimum of \$178,000 for welcam players, while his stated average salary in the three seasons of the contract that are not currently capped (1999-2001) is \$5.5m.

Athletics

Athletics
Denise Lewis, Britain's Commonwealth
Garnes heptathion chemion, is to undergo knee surgery in a bid to ensure
an injury-free build-up to next year's
Olympics in Atlanta. Lewis has been
troubled by scertissue on her right knee.
Great Britain will stage their 1996 Grand
Prix at Crystal Palace on 12 July. The
circuit has been extended by two meetings to 18, with Tokyo, Atlanta, Eugene
and Moscow added and New York and
San Jose dropping out. Sporesors have
increased the prize fund by 20 per cent
to around £120,000 for the four-date
Ricoh tour, in which six new disciplines
— 200m, 1,000m, 60m hundles and
high jump for men, and 1,000m and
tralle jump for women — have been
added.
1998 ERANED PROFEDITIES LIST: May 5

1996 TRAND PROX FOCURE LIST: May 5 São Paulo (Brezi); 12 Tolgo; 18 Atlanta (US); 26 Eugene (US). June 5 Rome; 7 Moscow;

28 Paris, July 3 Lausanner, 5 Osior, 8 Stock-holm; 10 Nice (provisional); 12 Landon, As-gust 10 Monte Carlor, 14 Zunich; 18 Cologner, 23 Brussek; 30 Berlin, September 7 Final

m mean.

BRITISH BEDOOR FOCURES: 27 Jan: G8 v
Russle, Birmingham; 3-4 Febr AAA Champi-onerdos, Birmingham; 10 Febr Ricch Tour in-ternational, Birmingham; 24 Febr G8 v
France, Glasgov. PROFES, CARAGON.

BUROPEAN INBOOR FOCURES: 4 Febr Ricoh International, Suntgart: 18 Febr Ricch international, Uswin, France; 25 Febr Ricch
ingenational, Succholin, 8-10 Marc European
Championships, Stockholin.

And Goode, the British Olympic manager, is preparing to take the controversial step of advising certain leading English players not to play for their country during the build-up to next year's Olympic Games in Atlanta. Goode believes that ensuring enough computer points to qualify for the Olympics and making sure that preparations are lideal for winning Olympic medels is more important than representing England in the European representing England in the European Chemplorships in April or the Thomas and Uber Cups world team champl-orships which take place in February and

MAJOR LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS American League Championship Saries: Cisyeland 5 Sectile 2 (best-of-source saries ted 1-1). Na-tional League Chempionship Saries, Albaria 6 Cincinnel 2 (Atlanta lead best-of-source ab-

Basketball EUROPEAN CHAMP Secri-fical count: Fr

Lee Germon, the New Zealand captain, refused to start the three-day match against india's national champions against India's national champions Bombay yesterday, claiming the out-field was wet and dangerous. His op-posite number, Sachin Tendulkar, agreed and the pair persuaded the um-pires to delay the game, already held up because of heavy overnight rain, for a further hour. When pley finally began in mid-alternoon, Mark Grestbatch's 87 not out helped the bouring fearm to 157 not out helped the touring team to 157

Games could include a procedure to detect human growth hormone, long considered a performance-enhancing drug used by athletics competitors and weightlifters. It was reported yesterday that a Swiss medical team has developed a reliable test to detect the hormone which could be validated by the international Clympic Committee in time for the Atlenta Games. The hormone, which is used to increase lean mone, which is used to increase lean body mass and strength, is often tak-en in combination with anabolic steroids, most of which are detectable through the current system of urine

The former Olympic and world decathlon champion Daley Thompson, 37, has signed to play frootbell for minor league side Stamford Town. After retiring from athletics following a series of injuries, Thompson made a television documentary on professional footbell and briefly played for Wimbledon reserves, TRANSFERS, locy Resuchance (midfielder) Symothm to Bottor: These Burnett (midfielder) Plymouth to Bottor: These Burnett (midfielder) Plymouth to Bottor: These Burnett (midfielder) Willia to Rotherham.

Plymouth to Bolton: Trever Serry (winger) Aston Ville to Rotherham.

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESURTS European
Changionship qualifying Group Once Romania 1 (Locatus 52) France 3 (Karambeu
30, Djorkaeff 42, Zidane 72); Israel 2
(Rarza 30, 50) Azerbajan 0; Slovalka 4
(Dubousia 52 pen, Janoula 68, Uglay 77, 5mon 83) Poland 1 (Unionala) 159, Group Tees
Cyprus 1 (Agethocleous 90) Macedonio 1
Pendes og 29); Dermank 1 (Mitor 46) Spain
1 (Herro 19 pen). Group Trever: Iceland 0
Turkey 0; Sultarshind 3 (Uninjume 22, Stoopala 56, Ornel 86) Hungary 0. Group Foer: Lithuania 5 (Maculievicius 8, Shuka 13, 39,
Sleige 44, Ivantausius 61) Estonia 0; Stovena 3 (Udova 50, 90, Zahovio 73) Unraine
2 (Steyping 24, Gusenov 44). Group Fiver:
Metro 0 Netterlands 4 (Overners 52, 61, 65,
Secotor 60); Lutembourg 0 Belanus 0.
Group Ster Austria 1 (Stoger 22) Portugel 1
(Saratos 49). Group Seven; Georgia 2 (Anetatos 1, Mindada 48) Bulgens 1 (Sholchkov
89), Group Egitt Russia 2 (Rostun 35, Oroplio 71) Greece 2 (Estonithides 64); San Manno 1 (Valentru 52) Faros Istants 3 (Jonescon
42, 45, 59). INTERNATIONAL, FRIEND1285; (Osto) Norway 0 England 0; Solonson
42, 45, 59) of Degland 0; Solonson
42, 45, 59) of Period (C. Solons,
Swe) Sweden 2 (Petitarson 31, Schwarz 35)
Secotand 0; (Bevence Alexa) Argentine 0
Colombia 0, Selevados, Br) Brazil 2 (Ronaldo 17, 35) Unglany 0. (Pomespecios, Calle)
Chile 2 (Rozentzi pen 47, Sales 67) Cane-

N Yoshino, K Suzuki.
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF WOMEN'S GOLF (Choju Island, S Kor) Lending first-round scores (US andess stated; 67 L Davies (Eng.), R Jones, 68 B King, P Bradley, 68 I Green; 70 V Sirimer; 71 B Daniel, J Lidback (Swo); 72 A Sorenszam (Swe), D Mochnic, N Bowen, L Dh-soon (S Kor); 73 K Eschettin, M Mallon; 74 I Shotani (Japan); 76 M McGann.

LAS YESAS INVITATIONAL Lending first-round scores (US unless stated); 68 N Ozziki (Japan); 66 K Fergua, R Fatir, J Wilson, C Parry (Aus); 66 D Mentin, B Byant, S Jones, B Two; 66 T Byrum, S Lowen, B Mayfek, D Reese, M Brooks, J Heas, C Rymer, M Co-casecotie, K Glason, C Differon, P Burke, M Springer, S Verplank, C Byrum, W Aussin, K Trajott, B Class.

Montgomerie stays hungry 30

The best footballer in Brazil is packing his bags and preparing to move to Middlesbrough. He talked exclusively to Phil Davison

At home with Juninho

hey nicknamed him Juninho, Little Junior, immediately af-ter he was born. At 5ft 5in and only eight and a half stone, he still lives up to the name. Had he been born around Newmarket, instead of in the world's second-biggest city, he might just have used his build and exceptional bal-

ance to become a jockey.
In a simple, lower middle-class home in the São Paulo suburb of Parque San Lucas, Oswaldo Giroldo Junior, alias Juninho, was packing his bags this week to emigrate to another, smaller industrial city he has trouble finding on a map and whose name he can barely pronounce. The 22-year-old Brazilian midfield sensation doesn't drink, but when he says "Meedleshbrow" he sounds for all the world like a 'Boro fan who's had a pint too many. All he knows is that his new home will be "cold, rainy,

'Cold, rainy, somewhere in the North, not far from Newcastle. And they play in red'

Juninho on what he knows of Middlesbrough

far from Newcastle and they jersey given to him by Robson play in red." He's not too worthe Copacabana. He grew up Brazilian record £4.75m. I English kids. Not on the That makes him a dollar milbier's busiest ski runs, can get picks up his first pay cheque pretty damp and chilly of a and sponsorship deals.

rors to ward off "the evil eye."

Juninho's been to London, tention of Middlesbrough's bro Cup victory, to Birmingham, for another Umbro Cup match, and to Liverpool. "The it. national squad had a day off so told me. But he'd never heard "r" comes out like our "h")

came calling this summer.



when he signed him up last ried. São Paulo is a far cry from week from São Paulo for a playing in the sidestreets off asked him him how much he São Paulo's busy Oratorio Av- himself got. "The player gets enue, or indoors like most 15 per cent," came the reply. beaches. And São Paulo, at lionaire and you can make that 2,500 feet or the height of Ver- a pound millionaire once he

The amiable 22-year-old As for Middlesbrough's red said his immediate ambition jersey, that's considered the was to help get Middlesbrough luckiest of colours here. Suinto the Uefa Cup. As we chatperstitious residents put red ted on a sofa in the simply carpets at their doors or hang furnished living room where red ribbons from their car mir- he lives with his parents and only sister, a Brazilian O Globo TV reporter, doing a where he first attracted the at- piece to camera in the corner, was describing him as "the new manager, Bryan Robson, when Pele." It's a tag that has stuck he scored in Brazil's 3-1 Um- mainly because Juninho is young, skilled and wears the No 10 shirt. But he doesn't like

"That's a huge responsibilwe went up to visit the city that ity," he said of the comparisons gave the world the Beatles." he with the great Brazilian. "I think I only scored nine or 10 of Middlesbrough until a de- for São Paulo last season. My termined gentleman he calls childhood idol was Zico, when "Mr Hobson" (the Brazilian he played for Flamengo. I'd rather be compared with him.

"I used to watch him on TV, He gave me a "première" study his moves and tricks by donning a Middlesbrough and rush out to try the same

until I got it right." With his balance, vision and free-kick ability, Juninho conjures up memories of Zico. Off the pitch, he has an honesty and quiet intensity reminiscent of the young Robson himself.

Juninho never saw the former England captain play. It was Robson's belief in him, his persistence and his infectious ambitions for Middlesbrough that led him to sign, he said. "The Brazilian press kept say-ing Arsenal, Chelsea, Everton etc were interested in me. I'd ask my manager and he'd say there had been no approaches. Mr Hobson was the only one to make a concrete offer

"He likes the way Brazilians play. I think he wants his team to play like that. Middlesbrough have invested a lot. They're growing and want to grow more," he said as he settled down to watch Brazil play

Uruguay in a friendly.

To get to the Uefa Cup, even to get a sniff of the ball from his team-mates. Juninho is going to have to brush up his English with a private teacher organised by Robson. The O Globo TV reporter asked him what was English for the Por-tuguese "bolla." Just taking off the "a" must have seemed too



Small wonder: Juninho (top) sits on the family sofa pointing to himself in a photograph of the Brazilian national team; and (below) in the Middlesbrough kit he will soon be wearing

"Bowl bow-ool bool Something like that," he replied, before counting in English to 12.

Going further appeared to pose problems and it may be some time before he masters the figure 25, the shirt number Middlesbrough have set aside

Photographs: Phil Davison for him. "You is beautiful. I love you, sweet honey," he aside. Juninho's only sibling, went on in lilting English.

girls.' That brought laughs from the assembled family members

ily living room as if it were a mother, 66-year-old Rosa station waiting room. Giroldo as she prepared a station waiting room.

Perhaps it's because success feijoada, a pork and bean is relatively new to Juninho - casserole, Juninho's favourite he has vaulted to prominence dish. "I'm his biggest fan. He since last year's World Cup - was my first grandchild so I since last year's World Cup - was my first grandchild so I but there's no talk of security, helped bring him up," she bodyguards or kidnappings said, showing me family snaphere. I had walked through his open car port and into his living room unannounced. When a tiny young man in a T-shirt is the food," Juninho's moth-and jeans shook my hand and er told me. "We'll be togethoffered me a cup of coffee, I er as a family so that will thought it must be Juninho's make it easier. But I'll be beauty called Daniela, president younger brother and found my bringing plenty of real coffee, of the Juninho fan chub, an orself looking round the room to plenty of beans."

try to pick the player out. But After signing him in 1993, try to pick the player out. But the young man was the man

facturers, are flying to England on Sunday for a medical. They will come back during the week to pick up his mother, 38-year-old Lucia, and return to Middlesbrough on Sunday week to pick one of four rentable houses Robson has set 21-year-old sister Gislene will "First I learn how to talk to the join them next February after completing her computer sci-

ence studies. "I'll go with Gislene in Feband neighbours who wandered ruary but only for a couple of meals a day and it's a habit he's kept up. The nearest McDon-ald's to his new home can look forward to a significant boost in profits when Little Junior hits what will surely soon be dubbed Rio de Tees.

Although Zico, who played for Rio's Flamengo, was his hero. Juninho followed the Palmeiras side as a boy. While São Paulo Football Člub has largely middle-class support, and the other local team Corintbians is mostly followed by the working class, Palmeiras has the support of the city's huge population of Italian origin, descendants of 19th cen-

nury coffee workers.
Rooting for Palmeiras kept
the young Juninho in conflict
with schoolfriends many of whom were in the Giroldo family home this week to wish him a tearful farewell. "Saudade" (roughly translatable as "we'll miss you") was the word on everybody's lips.

'I used to watch him on TV, study his moves and tricks and rush out to try the same until I got it right

Juninho on his admiration for Zico

Juninho wasn't packing much. But he planned to carry a ball as hand baggage "just in case." It's an old habit. "We'd give him toys, model cars, you name it, but he never touched them. All he ever played with was a ball," his mother said. "I'm inho kicking a football.

"My biggest preoccupation is the food," Juninho's mothing the food, "Juninho's mothing the food, "Juninho's mothing the food," Juninho's mothing the food, "Juninho' so proud of him, that God gave -

Among those bidding him farewell was a dark-haired ganisation Giggs-like in its pro-portion of female members. when he was a part-timer for Juminho is one of Brazil's mos himself. He could pass for 16. the Ituano club, Tele Santana, eligible bachelors but he doesn't He and his father, Oswaldo the São Paulo manager, put have a girlfriend and says he will Snr, a 46-year-old sales representative at a steel manufacturers, are flying to England went from 5ft in to his current are any. No girl means one 5ft 5in and from eight to eight problem less," he said with a and a half stone. That entailed smile.

7. DOWN.

shots of a three-year-old Jun-

UNUSUALLY,



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Rugby League

Three players have been thrown who has tested positive for the

Syd Eru, the New Zealand hooker, tested positive for pseudoephedrine after the game against Tonga at Warrington on Sunday, Pseudoephedrine is a banned substance under the Sports Council's testing regime, but occurs in some over-thecounter cold remedies. Two Australian players have registered that they have been pre-

who has tested positive for cannabis. His actions had "brought a stigma" to the nation's rugby league, said the him out of the whole tourna-

France manager, Tas Baitieri. Neither Grobbelaar nor Millet, who has already gone home injured, have played in the tournament, but have been detected by the World Cup policy of testing all players from every country. All players, apart from the South Africans, were

Fisher said: "I was told Pierre had a shoulder injury and that was why he was not playing.

also tested before even leaving

"I was never told anything about anabolic steroids or tests and I have not seen Pierre since Tuesday. I have been kept in the dark by the chairman, but I will be concentrating on continuing to coach the players who are still with me."

Eru, the 24-year-old Auckland Warriors player, who has been capped six times, is a serious loss to New Zealand, as the only specialist hooker in their squad. The New Zealand coach, Frank Endacott, yesterday denied any knowledge of Eru's test result, but said that he had already ruled him out of tonight's match against Papus New Guinea with a groin strain that could in any case have forced

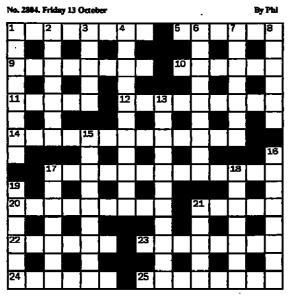
would make no other commen

did. It was out of character.

World Cup news, page 30

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THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- ACROSS Leader of society amongst Macs not hybridised! (8) Achilles' mother is following the Cross? (6)
- A fresh medical treatme without need for initial 23
- needing to have put in 24 11 Detailed plan gets one in to 25
- hold meeting (5)
 12 Group sharing beliefs of alling former politician (9)
- 14 Confrontation between
- Depend upon something uncertain to put the haubles 3 on the tree? (4,2,1,6) The sailor gets trampled in the rush (9)
- this reversed word Extract a bit of evidence following legal process 8
 - Causing irritation, as I have snatched an item of ingerie (8) Say soldiers in retreat appear (6) Respectful and always fill-
- ing a gap (8)
 DOWN The main picture? (8) Girl, in a month, may come to make too much of the part (7)
- en up by sailor (5) Barbara lewelly embraces ical effect! (11)
- Game for nimble feet hard work on the booze (9) for me? (3-4)
 - Holy man doing well, as it were, to take a walk (6) One in variety of a naval blue is not for sale? (11) Longing for anger in HK to dissipate (9)
 - Christian, say, in the Chris-tian era, taking this position over New Testament (8) Girl's individual about foremost in intrepidity - this one? (7) Put money away after rise?
 - I have, trying to avoid tax, say (7)
 Good idea gets cry of glee
 and zeal? Not half (6)
 Most excellent drug gives
 you a fixed expression (5)

Three World Cup players expelled for drug abuse

DAVE HADFIELD

out of the World Cup after failing drug tests. The most serious of the cases casting a cloud over the success of the centenary tournament is the South African, Pierre Grobbelaar, anabolic steroid, nandrolone.

The revelation has caused a rift in the South Africa camp, with the coach, Tony Fisher claiming, he had been "kept in the dark" by his chairman.

scribed drugs containing it. The third player caught is the Frenchman Stephane Millet, ment. The veteran half-back Gary Freeman will come into an unfamiliar position as emer-The New Zealand camp

on the news from the World Cup organisers beyond saying that they would take 24 hours to consider the situation. All three players are now banned from playing in the

tournament, although any further punishment is the province of their national leagues. Baitieri said: "Stephane Millet was a late inclusion. He replaced an injured player.

"He had been at a party on the Friday and thought he wasn't going to go the World Cup, but then he got the callup the night before we left. It's unfortunate he did what he

"It's going to cost him dearly and he's very upset about it, because he knows he has ruined his reputation and brought a stigma to French rugby league and to the World Cup. He's very apologetic. He's a young kid with a black mark against his name and he's going to have to work hard to get back."